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AT SPECIAL TIMES

King's At 2.15, Princess At 2.15, Empire At 2.15,
4.45, 7.15 & 9.40 p.m. 4.45, 7.15 & 9.40 p.m. 4.45, 7.15 & 9.40 p.m.

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King of the Circus



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SHOWING TO-DAY

Owing to length of picture please note change of times:

ROXY: At 2.30, 5.15, BROADWAY: At 2.30, 5.20,
7.30 & 9.40 p.m. 7.30 & 9.40 p.m.

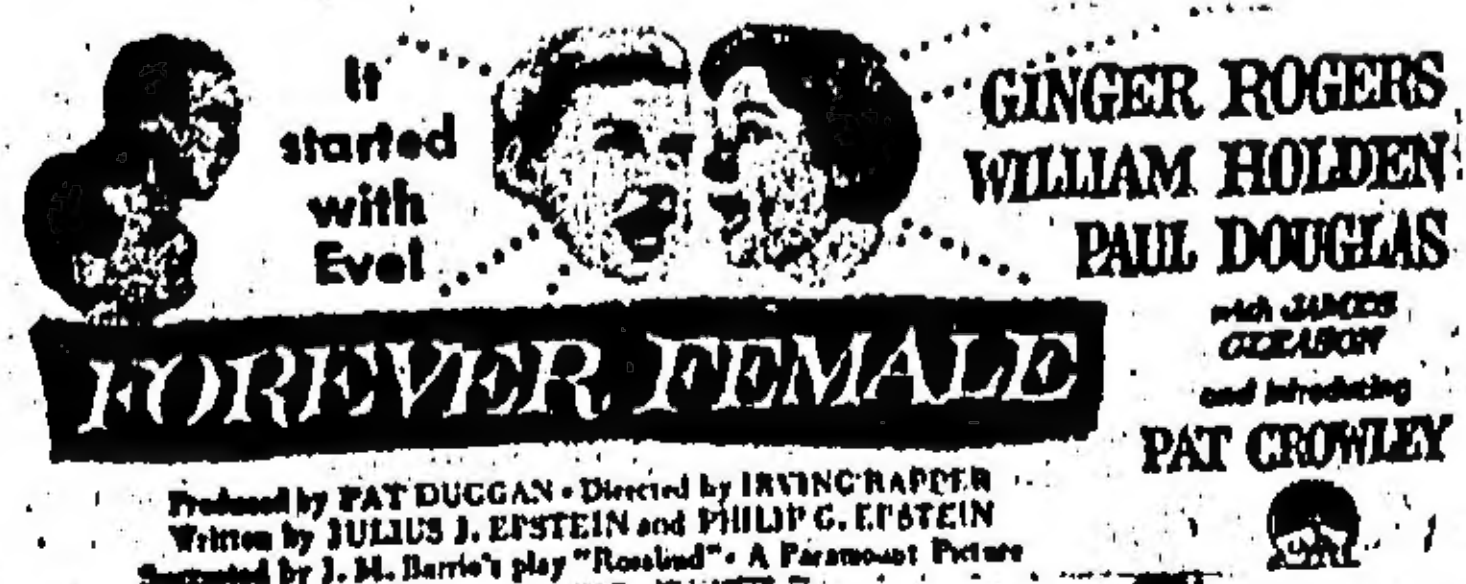
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AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30
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4-Track Stereo-Phonic Sound — Wide Screen!

**SOVIET FARMING****'ERRORS'****Bulganin Denounces
Agricultural Dept
& Planning Board****PARTY WARNS OF
STRONG MEASURES**

Moscow, Mar. 10.
The Soviet Government today decreed a tightening up of Soviet agricultural planning in order to eliminate "serious errors and deficiencies." The measure was decided upon by the Soviet Union's Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

The decree was signed by Premier Nikolai Bulganin and Communist Party First Secretary Nikita Khrushchev.

**Pardon The
Interruption**

Melbourne, Mar. 10.
Pastor C. K. Gray leapt from his pulpit to kill a brown snake that had slithered into Newham Methodist church, 55 miles north of Melbourne.

The sermon was resumed.

In the Melbourne suburb of Glen Iris a player left his crease to kill with his bat a four-foot black snake that had slithered on to the field during a social cricket match.

The match was resumed.

— China Mail Special.

**CROCODILE
FISH
EATS HOTEL**

Capetown, Mar. 10.
The new Ridgeway Hotel in Lusaka is widely considered as one of the best hotels in Africa. An unexpected guest who recently showed great satisfaction with the accommodation and cuisine was a three-foot crocodile.

Mr. E. Hall, the manager, was breakfasting when his guest rested for a moment on the goldfish pond.

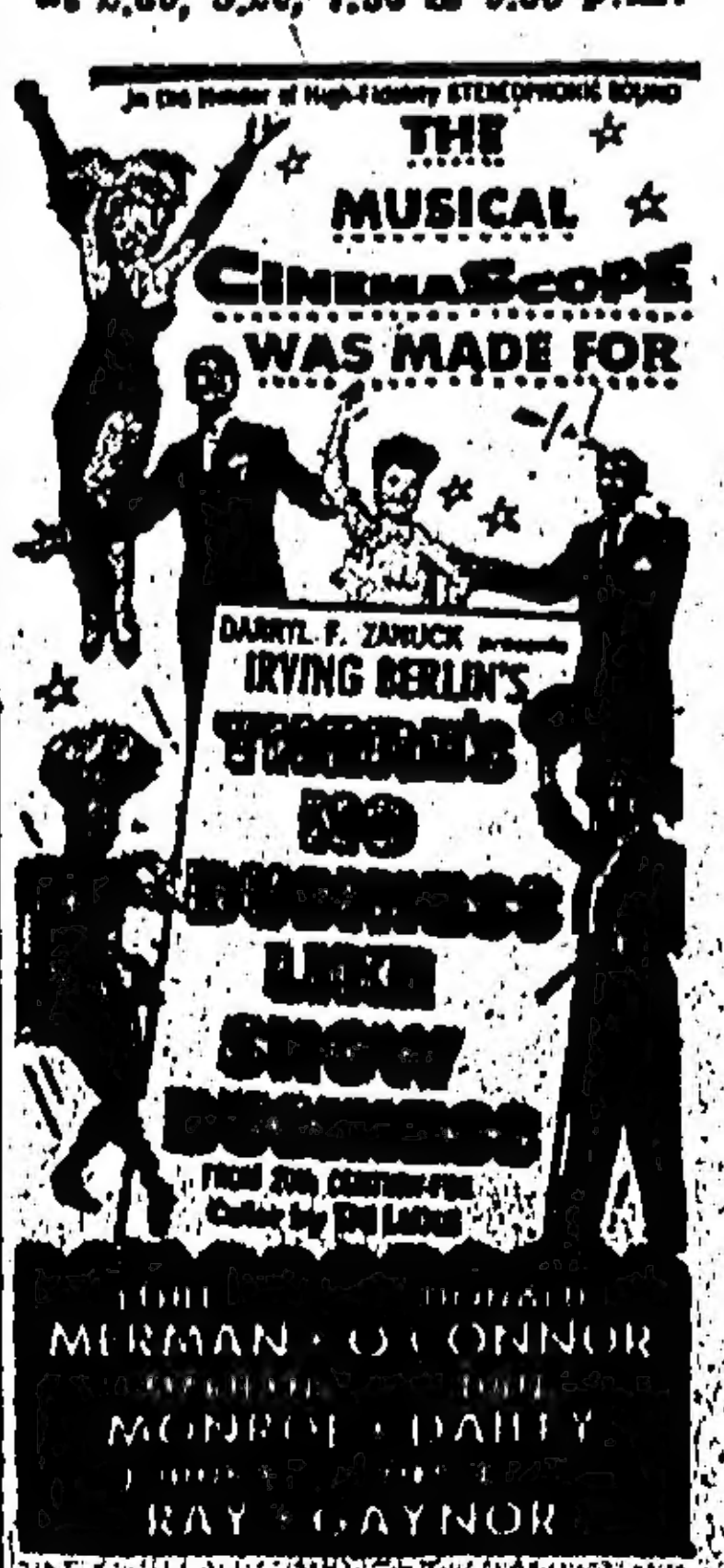
And there, basking in the early morning sunshine, with a look of contentment on its face which only a full stomach could bring, was the crocodile.

The goldfish and bread had evidently made him an excellent breakfast, for he offered no resistance to capture and removal.

Mr. Hall said he thought the crocodile was put in the pool by some late night revellers. — France-Press.

MAJESTIC

SHOWING TO-DAY
at 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.



The decree stipulated that henceforth, farm development plans drawn up by the State Planning Board (Gosplan) and approved by the Government, would indicate the volume of obligatory deliveries to the State, purchase contracts by the State, and payment in kind made by the State and collective farms to machine and tractor stations.

MORE DIRECT ROLE
The governments of the various Soviet Republics, regional and local authorities and State and collective farms will play a more direct role in establishing plans and in distributing tasks assigned by the Planning Board to rural economy.

The decree noted that heretofore the Planning Board and the Agricultural Ministry had "tolerated serious errors and deficiencies."

Plans have been established without taking local conditions into account, and the "bureaucratic" methods tolerated, it was stated.

Autumn planting had been recommended in areas where spring planting would have produced better results, and vice-versa, the Council of Ministers and the Party Central Committee said.

The Planning Board and the Agricultural Ministry, the decree said, had neglected the "important thing, that is, planning so as to make it possible to feed the people and to supply industry with raw materials."

Meanwhile, the new Soviet Minister for State Farms (Sovkhoz), Mr. Ivan Benediktov, today delivered a severe reprimand to the officials in charge of State farms in the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic.

MEET QUOTAS
At the same time, Mr. Benediktov ordered state farm ministers in all the Soviet Republics to take urgent steps to make certain that farms under their supervision meet the established delivery quotas. He also ordered them to take appropriate measures against those responsible for delay in implementing delivery programmes. — France-Press.

**Duke Cheered
Boarding Yacht**

Canter, Mar. 10.
The Duke of Edinburgh left Villafraanca harbour today aboard the Royal yacht Britannia amid the cheers of 10,000 people lining the quays on his way to attend British naval manoeuvres in the Mediterranean.

The Duke, wearing a light grey suit, sprang out of a grey Rolls Royce in which he drove to the quayside and boarded a small motorboat which took him out to the yacht lying just offshore.

He looked fit and tanned after his two-day Riviera holiday at the villa of his aunt, the Marchioness of Milford Haven, near Hove.

The yacht is taking part in the fleet exercises first as hospital ship and later as part of a convoy. — China Mail Special.



Lord and Lady Douglas of Kirtleside photographed as they left London Airport for Gibraltar on their honeymoon. — Central Press Photo.

**United States
Told To
Remove Army**

London, Mar. 10.
The North Korean Foreign Minister, General Nam Il, addressing the Supreme People's Assembly of North Korea, today demanded the immediate withdrawal of the "aggressive" United States Army from Korea.

He also called for the abrogation of all military treaties between the South Korean "Syngman Rhee clique" and the United States, the Communist New China News Agency reported from Pyongyang.

The Foreign Minister said that for a just settlement of the Korean question, an international conference must be immediately convened with a wide participation of the countries concerned and the question of the peaceful unification of the Fatherland must be solved peacefully by the Koreans themselves on a democratic basis.

Stressing North Korea's efforts to unite the country, he said they would continue to take every possible measure to achieve a peaceful settlement of the Korean issue.

They welcomed every proposal designed to facilitate peaceful unification and were ready, to establish a rapprochement and relations with members of the South Korean National Assembly, representatives of various political parties, social organisations and all walks of life in South Korea. — Reuter.

**NO PLACE
FOR A
CIVET**

Tokyo, Mar. 10.
Officials of Miyagi Prefecture, 200 miles north of Tokyo, had trouble identifying a strange cat-like animal a hunter brought back alive.

It was about twice the size of a house cat. Its face was like a badger's but wore a mask. Its body and tail, which was more than a yard in length, resembled an otter. It was black from the neck up but its body was brownish.

The baffled officials agreed that they had never seen such an animal in Japan.

They had all the zoology books in the city library brought to them. After a lengthy reading they got an answer. It was a masked Palm Civet, a species of cat commonly found in Malaya, Burma and in Yunnan Province, China. But the officials still wondered how the civet got to Japan. — United Press.

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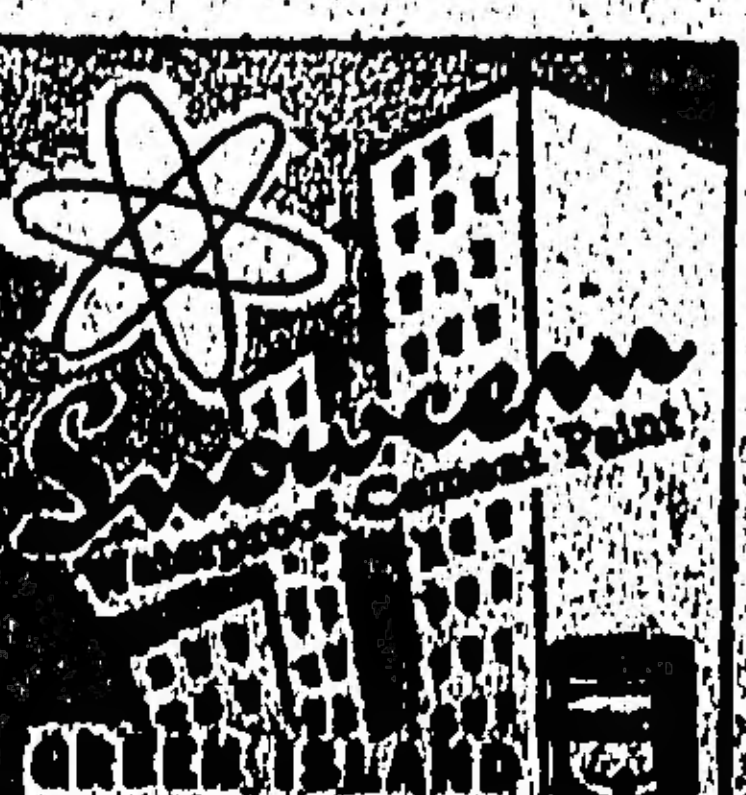
Capitol

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ON PANORAMIC SCREEN

They Hit a New High in Laughter

**POP**

US ARMS SHIPMENTS HELD UP

Doctor Trains
For Channel

DALAI LAMA RETURNING TO TIBET

Paris, Mar. 10.
The Dalai Lama, spiritual leader of Tibet, and the Panchen Lama, his former rival, will "soon" return to Tibet after a long sojourn in Communist China, the New China News Agency reported tonight.

The Chinese Premier, Mr. Chou En-lai, said at a farewell banquet in honour of the Tibetan leaders that the Peking Government has made "decisions on the establishment of the Preparatory Committee for the Tibet Autonomous Region, on helping the local government of Tibet to carry out construction, and on the question of communications and transport in Tibet."

Mr. Chou said the Dalai Lama and the Panchen Lama had participated in Chinese State Council discussions of Tibetan problems.

PAID TRIBUTE

Both the Dalai Lama and the Panchen Lama paid tribute to Chinese President Mao Tse-tung in speeches at the banquet. The Dalai Lama said that under Mao, China was "stronger and more prosperous" and was "not intimidated by aggression."

He said he would return to Tibet "fully aware of the importance of unity among the various fraternal nationalities of our country."

The Dalai Lama said that "as Tibet is located on the border of our Motherland (China) it is more important that we consolidate our national defence, be tirelessly alert, and guard against every imperialist sabotage and scheme of deception and provocation, and spare no effort to foster the patriotism of the Tibetan people."

The Panchen Lama said that "we will resolutely follow the instructions" of Mao.—France-Press.

TWO-TONE TROUT

Wellington, Mar. 10.
A TWO-TONE rainbow trout which lives in a pool with about 150 other trout at Tantiwha Springs, near Rotorua in the thermal region of the North Island, has been insured with Lloyd's of London for £100 sterling.

The trout, called "Harvey", has achieved fame by virtue of its unusual properties. Normally the front half of his body is dark green and the rear half lemon-yellow, which makes him unusual enough.

But at feeding times, "Harvey" confounds visitors to Tantiwha Springs even further by switching colours, his front changing to lemon-yellow and the rear half to khaki or deep green.

This change takes five minutes to enact and lasts about 20 minutes before he reverts back to his original two-tone. At the fed times daily along with his fellows in the springs, Harvey treats visitors to two complete acts per day.

Harvey is not a big fish as rainbow trout go in New Zealand. His 18½ inch length is dwarfed by many trout in the area. Scientists who have examined Harvey think the excitement and nervousness which he shows at mealtimes affects his skin pigmentation.—China Mail Special.

WOMAN'S FAITH IN HUSBAND

Singapore, Mar. 10.
Seven months ago, policeman Toh Keng-hua disappeared suddenly. "Desertion" ruled the Police Department, and cut off all allowances for Toh's wife, who had three children and was then expecting the fourth.

His wife stubbornly maintained that Toh was "not the sort of a man who would desert." For months she attempted, through the Press and private appeals, to clear her husband's name.

Over and over she made the same statement: that Toh had been instrumental in apprehending a member of a secret society on a murder charge. The arrested man had been executed for the crime, but he had threatened vengeance through his comrades. "They killed him," insisted Mrs. Toh.

Last week, the police found the arrested man, who had been released on bail, in a Singapore hotel. He was identified as the man who had been executed. Mrs. Toh's faith in her husband was vindicated.—Singapore Free Press.



PREMIER NAGY
Papers Lash
Nagy For
Rightist
Deviationism

Vietnam, Mar. 10.
Communist Hungarian newspapers charged today that Premier Imre Nagy, denounced by the Party Central Committee for "Rightist deviationism," violated party decisions from the moment he took office.

The new paper Szabad Nép, official organ of the Communist Party, said in an editorial read over Radio Budapest this morning that Nagy did not carry out the instructions of the party when on June 20, 1953, Nagy formed his Government on July 6, 1953.

But despite the blistering denunciations there was still no announcement that Nagy had resigned.

"PAINFUL"
Szabad Nép said, "It is painful to read that Premier Nagy resented the pride of the Party when he made fun of... the achievements of the People's Democracy."

Upon taking office in 1953, Nagy in a speech criticized over-emphasis on heavy industrialization projects like the newly built industrial city of Stuhlvasar, calling them "mirages."
Heavy industry, and especially Stuhlvasar, were not popular in Hungary. The former Hungarian Premier and first Party Secretary from whom Nagy took over the Premiership in 1953, — United Press.

Paris, Mar. 10.
A team of French Alpinists left here this afternoon by Air France for Calcutta on their way to attempt to scale Mt. Makalu, in the Nepal-Tibet area of the Himalayas, 29 miles east of Everest.

Mr. Jean Franco, chief of the expedition, said before leaving that "this is the first stage of a journey which will take us to the top of the mountain." — France-Press.

State Department Fails To Act On Requests From Egypt And Israel

Washington, Mar. 10.

Authorities said today that the State Department is "holding up" a number of arms shipments for Israel and Egypt by failing to act on requests from the two countries for export licences.

The shipments in question come under the "reimbursable aid" provisions of American law which permit approved foreign governments to buy military equipment in the United States through official facilities, thus getting lower prices.

The authorities said that there is no official embargo as such on these shipments to Israel and Egypt but that in view of the recent flare-up of border hostilities, the requests for export licences were being "scrutinized in the light of current conditions in the area." They explained that this had the effect of holding up the issuance of such licences for the time being.

NO AGREEMENT
Neither Egypt nor Israel has a military aid agreement with the United States under which arms would be supplied without reimbursement.

The official American attitude of free military aid to Israel remains the same. So far as Egypt is concerned, the Cairo Government has not asked for a military aid agreement, and the United States would not consider the subject until the Egyptians asked it. It was made clear to Egypt and the Egyptian Premier, Lieut.-Col. Gamal Abdel Nasser, after the Suez agreement was signed, that the United States was prepared to consider favourably any request for a military aid agreement and arms assistance.

However, Lieut.-Col. Nasser is said to believe that public opinion in his country is not yet ready for such a close tie with one of the Western Powers. American authorities do not agree with that assessment but point out that it is a matter Lieut.-Col. Nasser must decide for himself.

Meanwhile, the Gaza incident, for which the United States blames Israel, and the Egyptian opposition to the Turco-Iraqi pact, have muddled the Middle East situation enough that the U.S. is content to await a clarification of matters before pressing its views on anyone in that area.

HEAVY PRESSURE
American officials said that there is heavy pressure on the State Department, in the form of inspired articles from various Israeli and Arab sources, to try to ferret out American intentions in the Middle East.

They said there is no intention to alter American policy in the Middle East and declared that the Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. George Allen, was "misrepresented" when he was quoted as saying a "re-examination of policy" was being carried out.

What Mr. Allen said, according to State Department officials, was that there was "interest" in the State Department in an American Jewish demand for "re-examination."

That Mr. Allen said, according to State Department officials, was that there was "interest" in the State Department in an American Jewish demand for "re-examination."

The United States has no intention of abandoning its support of the Turkey-Iraq pact. On the other hand, it is not as concerned over the Egyptian-Syrian-Saudi Arabian pact as the Arabs would appear to believe.

Officials said they had expected the three-Power gesture but indicated that they did not think it would ever come to much in the way of a positive arrangement.

Their assumption is that the Turkey-Iraq pact will be broadened slowly and come to the main security alliance, to which Egypt and others may in time adhere when tempers cool.

NO PACT
The US has not at present had any intention of concluding a mutual defence pact with Israel.

It has considered the feasibility of issuing some declaration of its interest in the maintenance of Israeli security—a declaration which would fall far short of meeting Israeli desires—but this is in abeyance for the time being.—United Press.

NO DULLES-EDEN Clash Says Casey
Canberra, Mar. 10.
The External Affairs Minister, Mr. Richard Casey, said tonight that Britain and the United States, despite differences in presentation and approach, clearly want, above all, to prevent the Formosa Straits situation from developing into an active war.

Mr. Casey said he believed there was no fundamental clash in views expressed by the British Foreign Minister, Sir Anthony Eden, and the US Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles.

"Mr. Dulles sets out plainly that further Communist aggression would have grave consequences," Mr. Casey said, "so that there will be no misapprehension that Peking can get away with aggression. Eden and Dulles want to bring about a cease-fire in the Formosa Straits which would enable the matter to be submitted to negotiation and discussion—the civilized method of resolving disputes." — United Press.

Proposal To Restore Acropolis
Athens, Mar. 10.
Greek surgeon Mr. Telemachos Porras has submitted a proposal for the restoration of the Acropolis. According to Mr. Porras, the full restoration of the Acropolis has from time to time been opposed by many people who profess that it would not be aesthetically.

However, since the liberation, the question of the restoration of the Acropolis has been faced by the Government which has entrusted this work to well-known Greek and foreign archaeologists and architects. He estimates that the full restoration of the Acropolis on the basis of the plan would cost some four million dollars (\$2,400,000).

Greek archaeologists, however, are sceptical concerning Mr. Porras' plan and family believe that the Acropolis should be preserved in its present state.—France-Press.

NY STOCK BOOM INVESTIGATION
Banker Discounts Pension Fund Buying Theory

Washington, Mar. 10.
Mr. John J. McCloy, a leading New York banker, said today he does not believe growing purchases of stocks for pension funds are a major factor in the booming stock market.

Mr. McCloy, Chairman of the Board of the Chase National Bank, submitted a statement to the Senate Banking Committee investigating the boom following two jittery sessions on the New York Stock Exchange.

The market dropped sharply on Tuesday, and is nervously swung down and up twice yesterday with a good portion of traded stocks closing with new lows.

Some Wall Street experts believed the declines of the past two days were triggered by testimony before the Committee headed by Sen. J. W. Fulbright.

NO CONNECTION
But Mr. Fulbright said he could see no justifiable connection between the testimony and the market declines, and a top New York broker, Mr. Winthrop H. Smith, agreed with him in testimony yesterday.

Previous witnesses had said that stock purchases, particularly of the "blue chip" issues, for pension funds and similar trusts, have contributed in varying degrees to the market boom. Such buying is for long-range investment and has cut down on the available supply of stocks at a time the demand is increasing, they explained.

But Mr. McCloy discounted the importance of such buying. "It is our judgment that common stock purchases for pension funds, or indeed for trusts generally, are not a major factor in the determination of common stock prices," Mr. McCloy said.

Most stock purchases for trusts were for pension funds, he said. He estimated about \$400,000,000 of common stocks were bought for them last year.

"It is only a small fraction of the value of stock trade on the exchange," he pointed out.

Mr. McCloy, former U.S. High Commissioner to Germany, also said that buying of U.S. stocks of foreigners is a minor factor in the stock market.

FOREIGN HOLDINGS
Foreigners were reported to hold \$2,400,000,000 of U.S. stocks at the end of 1953—less than three per cent of the total value of those listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

DETERRENT
Ottawa, Mar. 10.
If there were no atomic bomb, Russia could conquer Europe in a fortnight, Australian Premier Robert Menzies said here today.

Mr. Menzies said he believed the "A" and "H" bombs might prove the only way to eliminate war.

The more campaigns we had to demonstrate the terror these bombs could spread, the more chance there would be of world peace, he added.—France-Press.

FIVE DIE IN HUT FIRE
WITCH DOCTOR ACQUITTED

Bloemfontein, Mar. 10.
A NATIVE witch doctor charged with the murder of five people was acquitted in the circuit court at Vryheid because, said the judge, he could not hold that the accused's confession was entirely not influenced by his lengthy interrogation by the police.

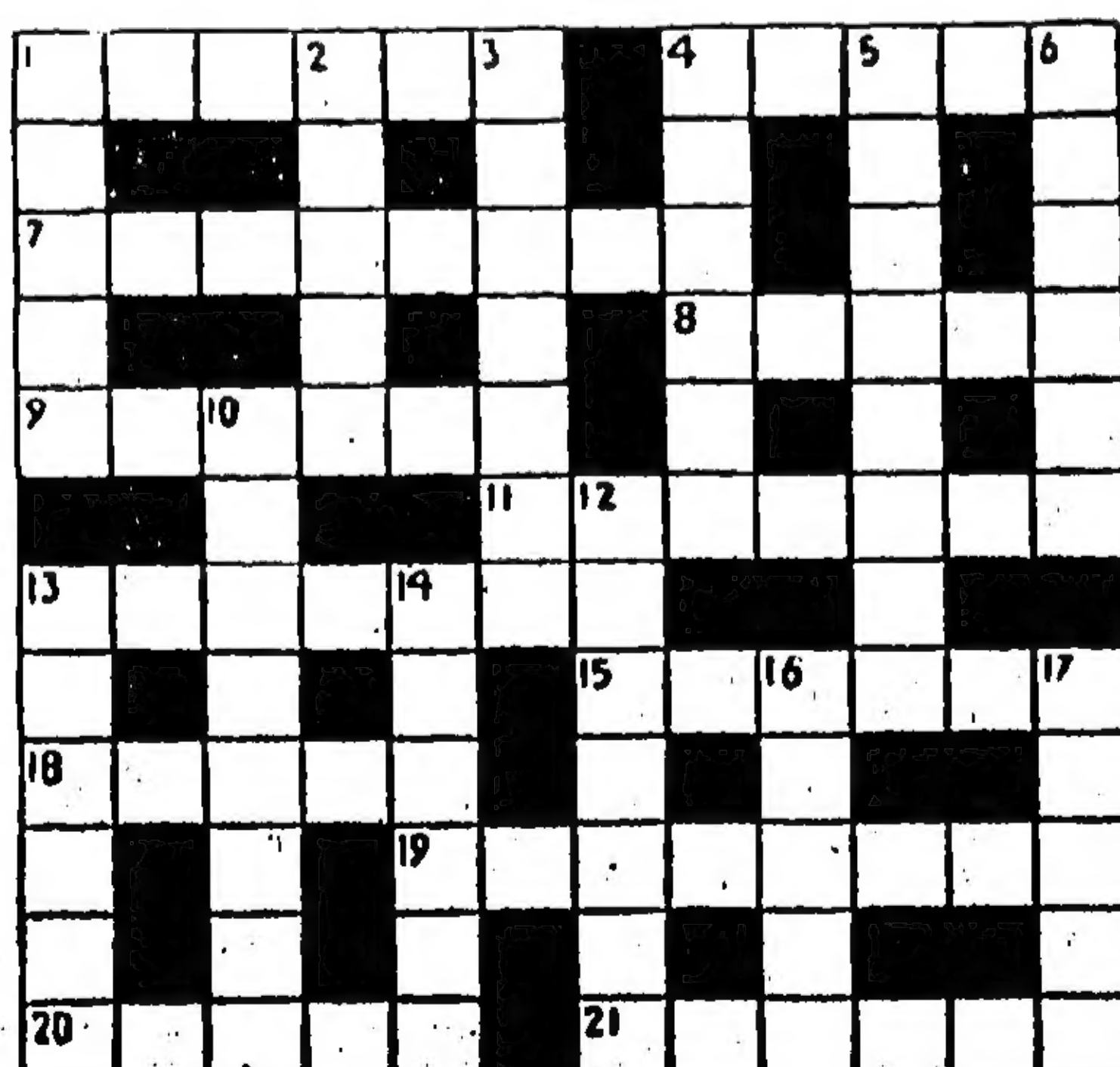
Mali Kumalo, described as an Inyanga (witch doctor) about 65 years, was charged with the murder of a native woman, a girl aged 16 and three children at a farm.

It was alleged that during the night he bedecked the hut in which the natives were sleeping and set alight to the thatch. All the occupants died in the flames.

The trial lasted three days and the judge had to decide whether an alleged confession by the accused before the magistrate at Bulawayo was admissible as evidence.

Saying that Kumalo had been examined by the police over a 10-day period, the judge rejected the confession and acquitted the prisoner.—France-Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
1 Has the flavour of (6).
4 Drugs (along) (5).
7 Wanders about (8).
8 Insertion (5).
9 Run (3).
11 Withdrawn (7).
13 Discouraged (7).
15 Pressing (6).
16 Blank book for photographs, etc. (5).
19 Countryfolk (8).
20 Crest (5).
21 Vigour (6).
- DOWN**
1 Less wild (5).
2 Singer (5).
3 Apparition (7).
4 Refrain from (6).
5 Pickle (8).
6 Standing (8).
10 Completed (6).
12 Tetch (7).
13 Trader (6).
14 Place of worship (6).
16 Elegance (5).
17 Irritable (5).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1. Romp, 4. Dastard, 8. Ward, 9. Bago, 10. Mustang, 11. Peel, 12. Ogre, 14. Severed, 17. Weird, 19. April, 22. Shelter, 23. Reck, 27. Rife, 28. Avoided, 29. Toss, 30. Neat, 31. Clutter, 32. Yaps. Down: 2. Orange, 3. Proper, 4. Dashed, 5. Amulet, 6. Tilted, 7. Sassy, 13. Ours, 15. Bile, 16. Rare, 18. Dolt, 19. Scum, 20. Pretty, 21. Knap, 23. Hovel, 24. Laiks, 25. Bladed.

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FERMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST-CHAPTER NINE

ENOSIS MOVEMENT LED BY REDS

By Harold Guard

THE sunny island of Cyprus is geographically a part of the Moslem Middle East, spiritually Greek and politically a British colony. It has become an unpredictable factor in Western plans for defence against Communist aggression, largely because of an active Communist organisation.

The initial impact of the monumental shift of troops, equipment and basic defence strategy involved in the British withdrawal from the Suez Canal Zone has affected Cyprus more than any other base. But just how large a share of the role Suez once played will be passed to Cyprus remains in doubt. Certainly only a fraction, and certainly that fraction depends in large part on local issues.

There are signs of anxiety among everyone concerned, both occupier and politically-minded Cypriots. The signs have increased since the United Nations voted, against British opposition, to put the question of the political union of Cyprus with Greece on the agenda of the General Assembly.

ALERT

While they continue to build a great military cantonment to house the paraphernalia of the Middle East Command, estimated to cost £30,000,000, British authorities here are more alert than ever for Communist exploitation of strained Anglo-Greek relations.

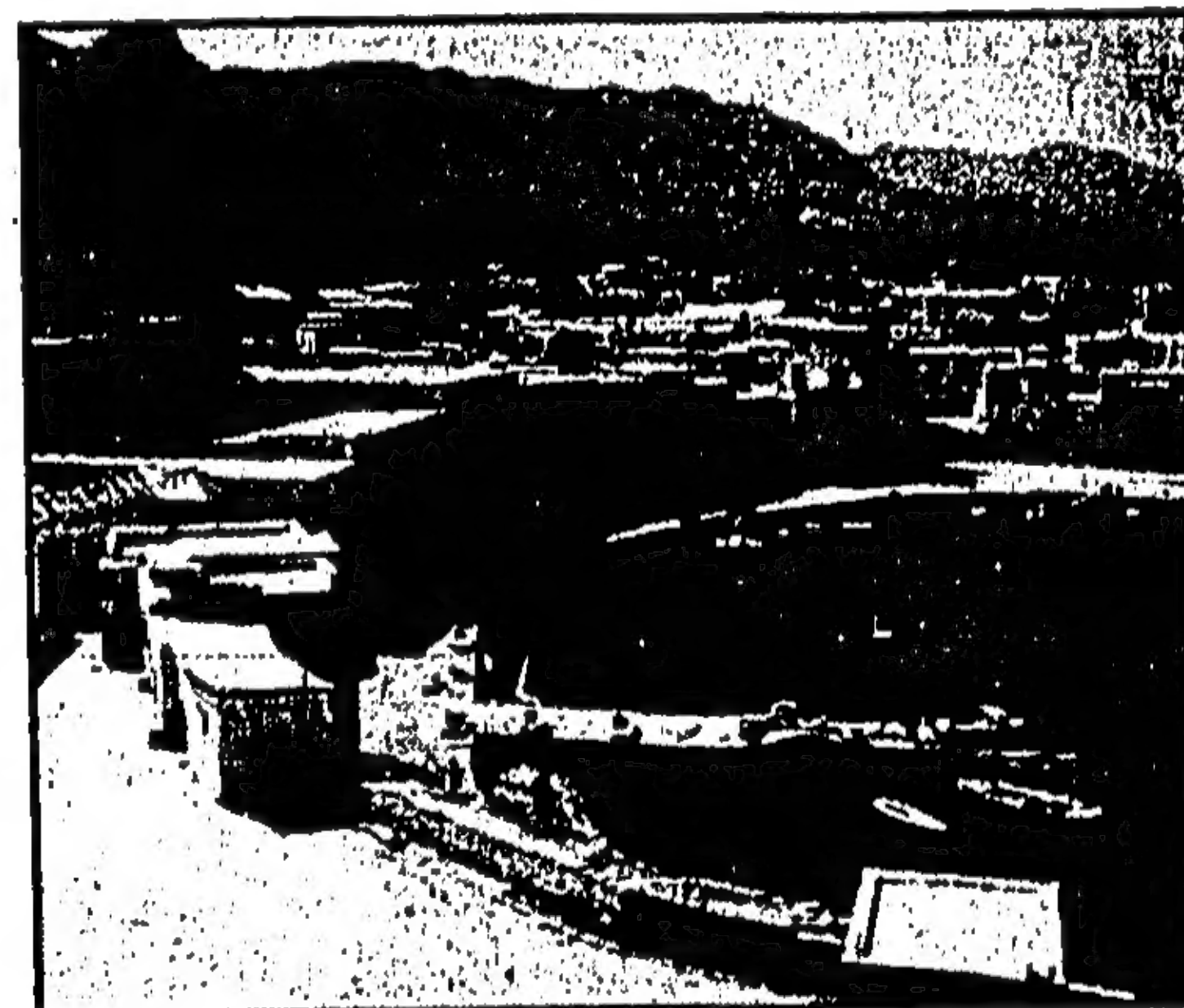
I roamed the island for six days and talked with Cypriots of all classes, from wealthy merchant to humble peasant.

I found it hard to reconcile the explosive agitation for "Enosis" with the feeling of indifference expressed by so many Cypriots in their private conversations.

What is very obvious, however, is that the local Communists are determined to exploit the movement that began as a brush-fire of genuine nationalism sponsored by the Orthodox Church. The Communists are now pushing the Enosis movement harder than the nationalists, and in some cases have seized the leadership.

Some Cypriots will tell you that Communists are running all Enosis meetings.

Nicosia, Cyprus. Communists in Cyprus are leading the fight for Enosis, or political union with Greece. Since the Communist party is outlawed in Greece, it would seem that Cypriot Communists cannot afford to be successful. In this article Harold Guard shows that ordinary rules of logic cannot be applied to Communist tactics. Win or lose, their attention is a headache to British military authorities who hoped to find a partial substitute for Suez in Cyprus.



General view of Kyrenia harbour, Cyprus. (Photo by Charles Dawson).

A recent general strike and "peace" rally was claimed by the Greek and British press alike to be the work of Communists.

The puzzle to many foreign observers is that the Reds should support a cause which, if successful, would make them citizens of a country where Communism is outlawed. Such doubts can only arise from confusing Communist tactics with Communist strategy.

Many of the people of Cyprus would like the economic advantages accruing to a garrison island, but they don't want to see their homeland involved in war at any price.

ARGUMENT

The Communist argument is that Cyprus today is a British base being prepared for an "imperialist war" which involves Greece both as a member of NATO and the Balkan pact. Enosis, they say, not only will unite Cyprus with Greece, but will divide Greece and Britain as allies, undermining NATO and the Balkan pact and blowing the "imperialist war plans" into smithereens.

The non-Communist Greek nationalists have a simple answer for this contorted argument. If Cyprus becomes a part of Greece, they say, the strategic situation would be unaltered, because Greece would lose bases on Cyprus to the Western

they please, work where they will. Nothing is forced on them except the British rule that the law must be obeyed. But they seek something further. They look for it in Enosis, which is just a word, like saying Amen to a prayer," he said.

One of the young Cypriots interjected: "But why can't we choose our own path? The United Nations believes in human rights. We want the right to choose for ourselves."

Dr Takvorian then spoke up for the opposition.

"If polling boxes were erected now and all the people were allowed to go and record a secret vote, Enosis would not get 80 percent support. But if they asked you to vote by writing your name in a book with the church bells ringing, Enosis would get a majority—that much is certain. How many people are ready to write in a book exactly what is in their hearts?"

The little group fell silent.

Old Man Nicolaides remarked that people sometimes don't know what they really want.

As in most political discussions, everyone left taking with him his original conviction: the Enosis supporters certain that Greek rule was the only answer, members of the non-Greek minorities certain of the contrary, and many, like old Nicolaides, certain that the truth was very difficult to find. The pattern was much the same wherever we went on the island.

INFLUX

At the booming seaside resort of Kyrenia, a recreation ground for the Cyprus Command's headquarters staff, the influx of troops from the Canal Zone has brought another problem.

Already there is a rising demand and rising prices for accommodation, causing consternation among the retired British officers and civilians seeking a sunny refuge on fixed incomes from the burdensome taxation in Britain.

Age-old Turkish storehouses on the fringe of Kyrenia's crescent bay are in great demand for conversion into dwellings. Cafe proprietors who have known prosperous days in Kyrenia for new pickings.

Meanwhile, military construction proceeds apace. Two major cantonments, a barracks and several smaller establishments are nearing completion. Roads are being cut across the island to link the new camps with the island's main cities. Telephone cables, electricity and water mains are being laid.

Military authorities here stress that there is no intention of making Cyprus any sort of substitute for Suez. They intend it only as a headquarters base. The total number of troops expected to transfer here is about 5,000; at present there is accommodation for about one-third of them.

"In other words," a staff officer said, "we have to get a move on. If Suez is to be evacuated in 10 months—and if this Enosis business will let us (Continued on Page 5)

INDUSTRIAL OPPRESSION IN CHINA

By Dennis Bardens

FOR the teeming millions of Chinese workers the meaning of Communism is being brought home in a series of lessons, each sadder and sharper than the last.

The Communist Party in China has made the USSR its ideal and model. For a time there was a compromise with other political parties and lip-service to a united front of all democratic classes, but the Draft Constitution prepared in 1954 reveals the old, familiar tactics. Although it claims that "all power belongs to the people" it is emphasised that this power must be exercised through the National People's Congress and that "democratic centralism" is to be the rule.

Infringements of discipline can be punished by a warning, a demerit mark, a major "black mark," allocation to lower-paid work, demotion, dismissal or judicial trial. As all black marks and derogatory entries are made on these record sheets the system means that with it the worker so singled out can never make a fresh start, while without it he cannot hope to get a job at all. In any country where the trade unions are free to protect their members such abuses could not occur.

An Offence

It is also an offence under the new code for a worker to leave his job without the permission of his manager or director. If he transfers or resigns without permission his action constitutes a "violation of labour discipline."

Failure to carry out work (which could be due to sickness) means the loss of job. The code says, with sinister ambiguity: "Workers unable to carry out their work should not be allowed to report for duty."

Workers who "cause excessive amounts of defective products or damage tools and equipment through violations of production procedures or irresponsibility may be materially responsible for the indemnity of the partial or total loss incurred."

Who is to decide whether inferior products are due to defective raw materials or the worker's fault? The management. Who will assess the amount to be indemnified? The management. Who will ensure that the worker's efforts are to blame rather than inefficiency in planning? The management.

Some punishable activities are: coming late to work or leaving early; strolling about aimlessly during working hours; intentionally delaying work; sitting idly through working hours; causing excessive losses through producing defective goods; and damaging tools or equipment.

The effect of these rules, backed as they are by force, is to create a state of constant anxiety among the Chinese workers. It is a demoralising thought for them that any accident in production, any defect due to faulty raw materials, inefficient planning or to bad distribution, may cause adverse markings to be made on the record sheet and so cast a permanent cloud over a man's future.

It is claimed that the purpose of the new regulations is to "consolidate discipline, organise workers more effectively, make a more efficient and

Something more
than just "Good!"



Caster — a sugar
of superfine quality.
Pure, white crystals
hygienically packed.

**Caster
TAIKOO
SUGAR**

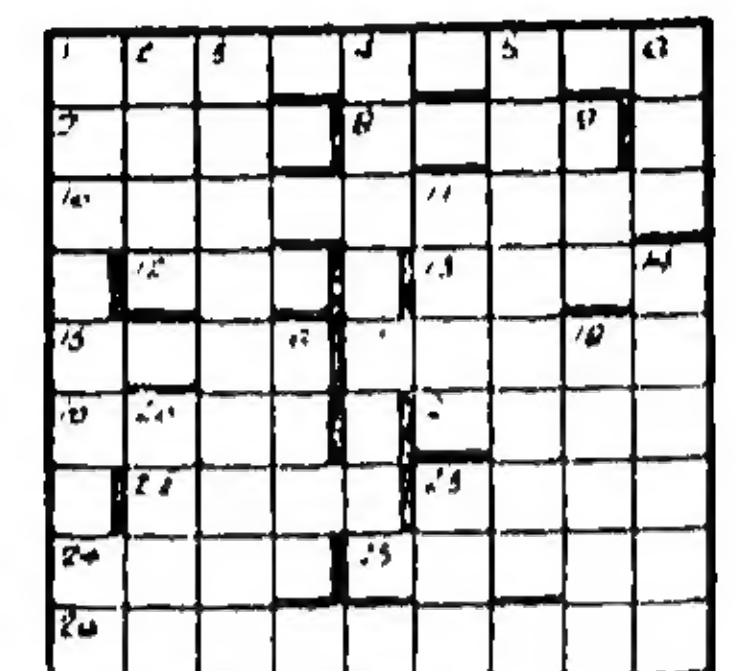
In
1 pound packets
& 35 pound tins

obtainable from all
shops and stores

DUMB-BELLS



CROSSWORD



Across

- The misanthrope has not had a close shave (4)
- Operative group (4)
- Shown in a film (4)
- The poet who wrote "The Waste Land" (10)
- A type of ship (4)
- The name of a famous river (4)
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YOUR BIRTHDAY By STELLA

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

BORN today, you have a tremendous sense of duty and responsibility. You are a natural leader and you will find that you are often called upon to lead others. You are a natural leader and you will find that you are often called upon to lead others.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—Contact old-time friends whom you may have neglected lately. It should bring real pleasure.

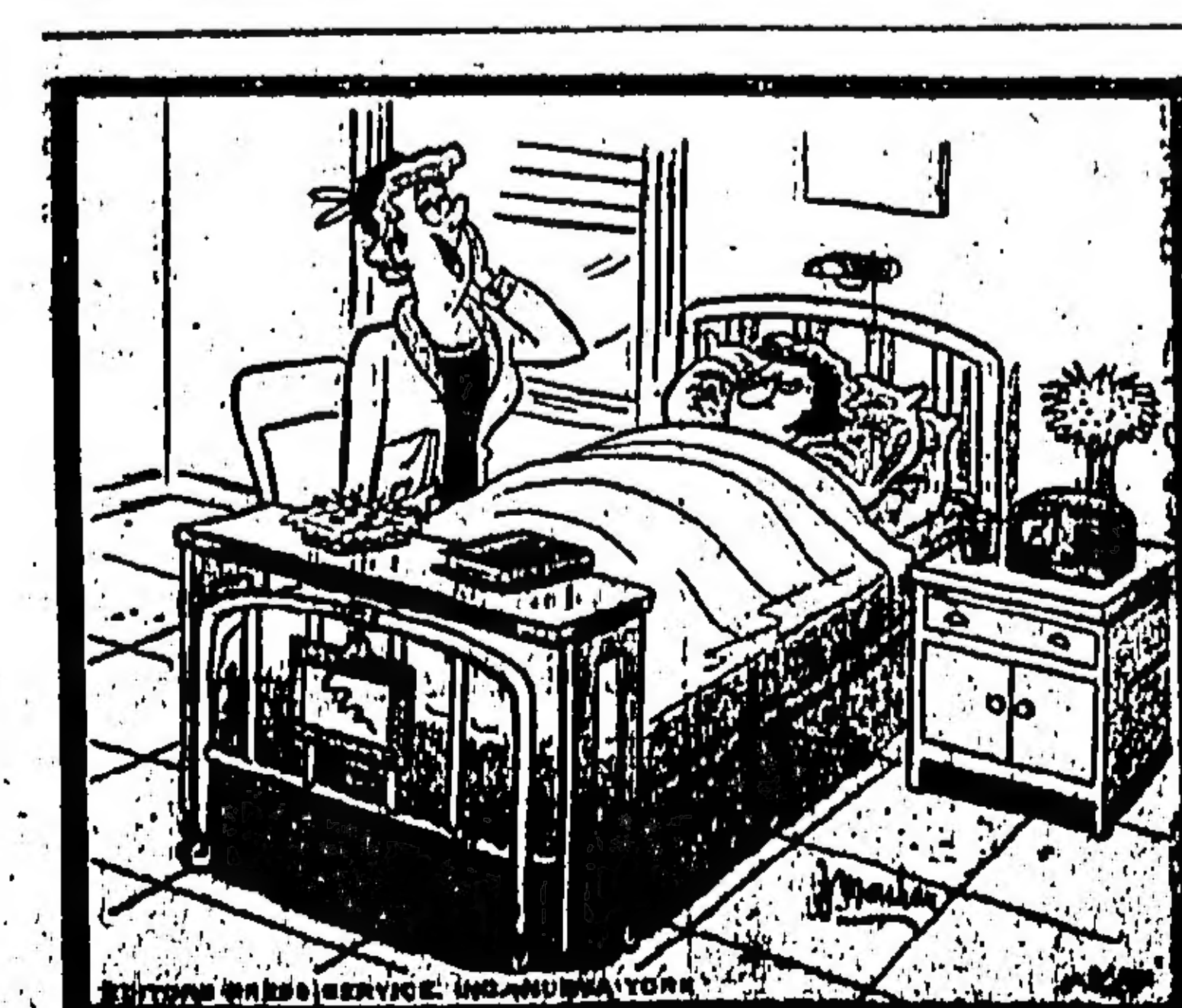
ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Avoid being upset or even temporarily disturbed by unimportant matters. Brush them off. Save your energies.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Your social life should be looking up. These days accept invitations and have a jolly time.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—If you haven't answered letters you have received lately, do it now.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)—Kindness to a stranger may win a new friend today and prove important to your future.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 23)—This may be odd-job day at home unless you have to put in some extra time on your regular job.



BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

IT is announced that ballet dancers are to help Olympic high jumpers to train for the next Games. I hope there will be a ballerina on the far side of the bar to catch every jumper, whirl him round by the top, and throw him to another ballerina.

Instead of the ugly rush up to the bar, there will be a slow, very graceful approach, on the toes, the jumper carrying a top bow and arrow, and accompanied by a ballerina, who shrinks from him, occasionally falls to the ground as though wounded by his arrow. As he reaches the bar, he spots her, starts his foot, and leaps over the bar, throwing her a rose disdainfully.

Nothing doing (2)

THE centre of all this web of intrigue, in a small, dark, narrow, and somewhat dingy room, the Arab, who was expected at the Reception Bureau, arrived. The Arab was a master of disguise, and a consummate actor. He had a long, thin, dark face, and a long, thin, dark beard. He was dressed in a long, dark, flowing robe, and a long, dark, flowing turban. He was a master of disguise, and a consummate actor.

The teleprinter bursts

THE teleprinter burst yesterday, with a sound like a siren. It was a sound of great power, and it was a sound of great power. It was a sound of great power, and it was a sound of great power. It was a sound of great power, and it was a sound of great power.

TARGET

How many of our letters of more or less than four letters in the alphabet? In making each word of four letters in the alphabet, we have a total of 256 words. This is a total of 256 words, and it is a total of 256 words.

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JACOBY ON BRIDGE

South's Satisfied With His Hand

By OSWALD JACOBY

NOBODY will ask you to give a three routing cheer for the strength of South's opening bid in today's hand. South would have been delighted with a better hand, but he had to be satisfied with what he got. As a result of opening a bare minimum hand, South got to a game contract that should have been defeated.

West opened the king of spades, and South considered his resources carefully. If he could develop four diamond tricks, all would be well, for there would be no difficulty in bringing in three hearts and the two black aces. If only three diamond tricks could be developed, however, there would be trouble.

South wisely decided to win the first spade trick rather than let it up his ace. He wanted spades continued later on, since a shift to clubs would be fatal. Declarer then cashed the top diamonds and gave up a diamond trick, hoping to drop a diamond honour or to find the diamonds splitting 3-3.

As it happened, the diamonds broke badly. East won the third round of the suit with the jack of diamonds, and South discarded the nine of clubs to give the impression that his remaining clubs must be higher than the nine.

East returned his second spade, exactly as South had intended, and South played the

NORTH 16
♠ 63
♥ A J 5
♦ A K 10 9 8
♣ 7 6 4

WEST 14
♠ K Q J 7 4
♥ 10 9 7
♦ 8 5
♣ K J 8

EAST 14
♠ 5 2
♥ 8 6 4 3
♦ Q J 7 3
♣ Q 10 2

SOUTH (D)
♠ A 10 9 8
♥ K Q 2
♦ K 2
♣ A 9 5 3

Neither side vul.
South West North East
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass
2 NT Pass 3 ♠ Pass
3 NT Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead—♠ K

ten of spades. This play shouldn't have fooled a Hot Spotter, but it did have an effect on West. Disregarding the fact that South had bid and rebid in no-trump, West hopefully took the jack and queen of spades.

East discarded the three of hearts on the third round of spades, and West realized that he had set up a second trick for South. Undaunted, West continued with a fourth round of spades, hoping to regain the lead with a club.

The party was now over. South took the nine of spades, entered dummy with the jack of hearts, and gave up another diamond trick. This gave the defenders two diamonds and two spades.

South was able to win the club trick and enter dummy with the ace of hearts to cash the last diamond. Declarer made his contract with two spades, three hearts, three diamonds, and one club.

CARD Sense
Q—The bidding has been:
South: 1♣ Pass 1♦ Pass
You, South, hold: Spades A-Q-J-6, Hearts 5-3, Diamonds 5, Clubs A-K-J-5-3-2. What do you do?

A—Hold one spade. You can't guarantee a game with this hand, and your partner has a good fit for spades or a fair fit for clubs. The one-over-one bid is invitational, which is all you can afford.

TODAY'S QUESTION
The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You, South, hold: Spades A-Q-J-6, Hearts 5-3, Diamonds 5-4-4, Clubs A-K-J-5-3-2. What do you do?

Answer: Pass.

WOMANSENSE

Afternoon Woolen Dress



"Gazelle," by Jacques Fath, is a brown afternoon woolen dress with white collar. The bodice is fitted with wide pleats which go below the waist and flare out at the hip band. — Agence France-Press.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Use bottles with screw-on medicine droppers for flavouring extracts, fruit colouring, or any other liquid you want to use in small quantities.

Try starching men's handkerchiefs on the corners only. You'll find they stay neater when tucked in a jacket pocket.

The old-fashioned piano stool can be converted into a handy bedside table. Refinish it to suit the bedroom decorating scheme. It can be turned to bring articles within easy reach, and lowered or raised to fit bed height.

Remove the cellophane wrapper from new lamp shades. Otherwise, heat from the light bulb may shrink the cellophane, pulling the shade out of shape.

Clear glass placed over an open cookbook keeps the recipe easy to see and protects the pages from soiling.

Using strong alkaline soaps or extremely hot water in washing china will fade out goldband or gilt decorations.

"This mammoth whale could swim faster than the fastest ship, dive deeper than the biggest submarine, eat more than a zoo full of lions and tigers and elephants."

"Now you would think," said King Nep to Knarf and Hanid, "that a beast as big and as fast and as strong as Enormous could do whatever he pleased and go wherever he wanted to go and no one would be able to stop him."

Knarf and Hanid both nodded, for they thought this must surely be so. Who could stop a whale as gigantic as this one?

"Oh no, you're mistaken, my dears," said King Nep. "It wasn't as easy as all that. Not even for him, big though he was. And it all goes out of his mouth as strong as he is! But let me tell you what happened."

"One fine bright sunny day Enormous saw out of the corner of his eye a tiny, silvery sardine no bigger than would have filled the smallest cavity in one of his teeth. So he opened his mouth straight over the sardine and snapped it shut. But the sardine had gone!"

"It was like trying to snap at a sunbeam. It was like trying to catch a mosquito with a baseball bat. The whale snapped and chawed and snuck to the bottom and rose to the top and turned in circles and spun on the edge of his tail and wallowed his flukes against the water so that they made a sound like thunder. And still he couldn't catch that little sardine!"

Fatal Test
"But worst of all. That little sardine swam out of the ocean and up a narrow, little river no wider than a sidewalk and no deeper than a pebble. The whale swam in right in the eye and saw it in his naughtiest tone: 'Catch me now if you can!'"

"And the whale couldn't! Because there wasn't enough water for him—because all his bigness and mightiness was stuck in a river no wider than a sidewalk and no deeper than a pebble. And the mightiness of the ocean, to hold him up, was gone!"

VITAMINS IN WATERCRESS

By IDA BAILEY ALLEN

THE body often has a natural way of making its food wants known. For instance, with March comes a yearning for fresh green foods.

My New England mother always believed this was a natural outcome of the over-heavy winter fare. When "that feeling" came upon her, we youngsters were delighted, for it meant we'd be allowed to go on a picnic to Swan's ravine to gather watercress from under the ice on the edge of the fast-running brook.

Our sandwiches eaten, and apples munching, we'd break the ice, pull up the cress by means of forked sticks, fill the lunch basket with it, and go home red-cheeked and triumphant.

Mother would wash the cress carefully and pass a big bowlful along with baked beans. For supper, she would cut it in inch-lengths to add to the usual Waldorf salad. The following day she would chop the rest and stir it into hot cream of potato soup.

SCIENTIFIC REASON

Nowadays, we know the scientific reason why it was so refreshing. Watercress contains iron, copper, and magnesium to help make blood and calcium needed for building bone, teeth, muscles and nerve tissue. In addition, it is high in vitamins A, B and C, and natural "pepper-uppers."

Watercress, we do not gather from brooks. It is cultivated scientifically, and marketed like other greens and salad plants. It provides a tasty stimulus to jaded appetites.

DINNER

Minestrone
Home-Made Beef Hash
Fried Onions
Escalloped Cabbage
Watercress Salad
Apple Sauce
Banana Pecan Loaf
Coffee Tea Milk

All Measurements Are Level
Recipes Proportioned to Serve 4 to 6

Escalloped Cabbage: Chop enough cooked cabbage to make 4 c. (about 2½ lbs fresh cabbage). Make 2 c thin white sauce.

To Put Together: Thoroughly butter or margarine a 3 pt. baking dish. Put in a layer of cabbage, then ½ c. of sauce, and ½ c. grated sharp cheese. Continue in this way, making 3 layers in all.

Top with ¾ c. fine dry bread crumbs mixed with 3 tsp. melted butter or margarine and 1 tsp. grated cheese. Bake in moderate oven 350°-375° F about 35 min., or until well browned.

Banana Pecan Loaf: Beat 1/8 c. shortening, ½ tsp salt and ¾ c. sugar until creamy. Add 2 well-beaten eggs. Next, sift together 1¼ c. already-sifted enriched flour, 2 tsp. baking powder and ½ tsp. baking soda. Add ½ c. chopped pecans (or broken pecan pieces) alternately to the first mixture with

1 c. thoroughly mashed ripe bananas (from 2 to 3 will be needed). Spoon into well-oiled 4" x 8" loaf pan and bake 1-hr. and 10 min. In a moderate oven, 350° F. Let stand at least 4 hrs. before slicing.

TRICK OF THE CHEF
Nice for sandwiches or after-noon tea.
To step up the flavour of a (1 lb.) tin of apple sauce, add ¼ tsp. nutmeg and the juice of ½ lemon.

For Cocktails In Spring



Balenciaga presents this pleasant cocktail dress in the recent Spring and Summer collection. It is in raspberry-coloured taffeta; the white organza neckline and hem achieve a contrasting effect.—Agence France-Press.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

Bigness Isn't Enough

—A Whale Was Tricked by a Sardine—

By MAX TRELL

KNARF and Hanid, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, went down to see their friend little King Nep, who lived in a cave at the edge of the brook.

Once upon a time, a couple of thousand years ago, King Nep used to be known to everybody as King Neptune, the ruler of the Green Seas. But since no one believed in him much nowadays, he had grown quite small and neglected and forgotten. But he was still cheerful.

He hailed Knarf and Hanid with the wave of his trident, or magic pitch fork and invited them to sit down on a mossy rock and share a pie made of

starfish, sea urchins, water-anemones and blue and pink coral.

"It's absolutely delicious," he promised them, holding them each out a slice.

Knarf and Hanid nibbled some. It reminded them of ocean spray and salt water taffy.

Then little King Nep, smiling, fell into a story-telling mood. And this is the story he told.

An Awful Big Whale
"Once upon a time, my dears, there was a whale named Enormous. He was the biggest thing alive. When he sank down to the bottom of the ocean, he caused a tidal wave. And when he rose up and stood on his tail, there wasn't a beach anywhere from Baffin Bay of James W. Edgeworth Land that didn't have the lowest tide in all history."

"This mammoth whale could swim faster than the fastest ship, dive deeper than the biggest submarine, eat more than a zoo full of lions and tigers and elephants."

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Stretching Living Space

WITH so many family activities centred in the home, every inch of space becomes doubly valuable, with attics and basement areas taking on workshop, extra living room or music room duties.

It is amazing what can be done with basement areas, too often just repositories for old trunks, bottles, jars, newspapers and magazines. Take but a small amount of cash, and a little effort, to turn this catch-all into a smart game and recreation room.

The first step is to gather all of the old furniture available that looks usable. A fresh coat of paint will do wonders with it. Foam rubber cushioning and new slipcovers or upholstery will give new life to a sofa and chairs. An old-fashioned dining room table converts easily into a table tennis table, while a kitchen table is easily done over into a handy refreshment bar.

If you haven't one already, a good, low, sturdy dining table, likely to turn up in an old upright piano, for song fests. Making music is very much a part of do-it-yourself recreation activities.

Colours should be bright and lively, no matter what theme is worked out. The fabric used for draperies can be carried over into a skirt for the bar or refreshment stand. Vivid stripes or the popular new Indian prints are especially good as are brightly coloured Mexican designs.

Vertical movement in the fabric design will help give an illusion of a higher ceiling than that beneath which the room is built.

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Care Of The Feet

Badly fitting footwear is often the cause of discomfort, and has been known to lead to permanent injury. Indeed, it is surprising the risks that many will take rather than spend a little more time and money to gain comfort and safety.

In dealing with football boots it is necessary to keep the uppers fairly soft. At the end of a game the boots should be well-oiled; and they should be stuffed with newspaper, which is better than using shoe trees. If a boot is allowed to become wrinkled on the outside, it must be wrinkled on the inside, and this causes chafed toes.

After the game, wash the feet well in hot water; dry thoroughly and sponge with a little methylated spirit. Pay particular attention to drying between the toes; neglect in drying frequently leads to what is known as athlete's foot and may prevent playing for several weeks. Before a match, sprinkle the insides of the socks with boracic powder or soap them.

RUBBER HEELS BEST

Walking on leather heels on city pavements jars the spine as much as riding in a springless vehicle. The pounding of leather heels on a hard road not only jars the body, but is conducive to flat feet springing of step is interfered with. Rubber heels are a necessity.

Over 40 years ago H. G. Wells wrote an article on The Curse of Boots, emphasising the misery caused by badly-fitting boots and shoes. What a world of truth was summed up in the old comic song "My heart's all right but my feet won't let me". Men who would cheerfully put £1 on a horse will economise in their shoes and buy the very cheapest.

HOW TO WALK

To walk well is an advantage in any form of sport. It is better exercise to walk briskly a distance of three or four miles with the body held correctly than it is to accomplish long walks in a slouching careless manner.

The neck should touch the back of the collar, the chest should not be held stiffly, the arms should not swing too high and the walking should be done from the hips with feet straight (this ensures heel-and-toe walking), adding to the swing of the body, and, incidentally, strengthening the ankles and the front muscles of the thigh. Turning toes outwards is an unnatural position; it causes weak ankles and is a waste of effort.

The best form of walking for young active men is in hilly country, where it naturally employs many more muscles than walking on the flat. It also takes the breathing and makes sure that the lungs are used fully; but there should be occasional spells for rest. Breathlessness should be avoided.

Walking from a sense of duty or as part of a daily routine can easily become fatiguing, but if it is impressed upon the walker that he is journeying on the road to health, an interest in time permits, and the distance is not too great, to walk home from work instead of using a bus.

FLAT FOOT

When the muscles and ligaments which hold the bones forming the arch give way, flat foot results. (Ligaments are flexible, strong straps which hold the bones in position.)

The usual causes of flat foot are prolonged standing on hard floors, or an excessive gain in weight. Pain is usually felt in the big ligament at the back of the ankle, across the foot, or in the muscles of the calf.

The natural spring of the body is interfered with; it would

be impossible for any man suffering from flat feet to be a good high-jumper or sprinter. A simple flat in to set the feet and place them on the floor. If flat foot exists, there will be an impression of the whole foot instead of, as in the normal foot, an impression of only the heel, the outside edge of the foot, the ball of the foot and the toes. It is for this reason that so often a corn develops in the middle part of the ball of the foot.

If the condition is not very bad or of many years' duration, much can be done to remedy it, especially in young people. The best corrective exercise is to stand as much as possible on the outside of the feet and, in the privacy of one's room, to walk on the outside of the feet, keeping the knees stiff. If the condition is more or less chronic, it will be necessary to wear a support in the shoes.

SCHOOLS TO MEET KCC

The following have been selected to represent the Combined Schools in a cricket match against the Kowloon Cricket Club on the K.C.C. ground, Cox's Path, on Sunday, March 13, commencing at 1.30 p.m.

A. M. Prata (Captain), J. Shroff (K.G.V.), I. Whitaker (K.G.V.), J. Basto (K.G.V.), G. Bendall (K.G.V.), A. Myatt (D.B.S.), A. Deng (D.B.S.), J. T. Hung (D.B.S.), R. Lalchandani (Q.C.), Ali Khan (S.L.C.), 12th Man: M. Frew (S.L.C.). Umpire: J. L. Youngsaye.

Hongkong Footballer Of The Year

Members of the public are invited to nominate whom they consider to be Hongkong's Footballer of the Year for the current season.

It is a popularity poll organised by the China Mail, and nomination coupons will be received until the closing date to be announced later.

The two qualifications for nomination are:
(1) Footballing prowess.
(2) Sportsmanship on the field of play.

Nominations should be addressed to The Editor, China Mail, Wyndham Street, Hongkong.

To The Editor, China Mail.

My nomination for Hongkong's Footballer of the Year, taking into regard his playing ability and his sportsmanship on the field of play is

of the Club.

(Signed)

FIJIANS v. 72 LAA

TODAY'S FARELF RUGGER FINAL SHOULD BE A GRAND GAME

Says "PAK LO"

This afternoon the Fijians will again be seen in action in what is to them, and to their opponents, the all-important game of the series they are playing while in Hongkong.

Today's game is the FARELF Inter-Unit Knockout Competition Final. Last season, it will be remembered, the Fijians lost to the Welch Regt. in the final by 11 points to nil.

This year it is the turn of the 72nd LAA to face this terrific team, and they will find it their hardest match to date.

Whether they will be able to repeat the success of the Welch is a moot point, but they will at the worst give the Fijians a very hard fight for the Championship.

The game this afternoon will be played on the Club ground in Happy Valley, with the kick-off scheduled for 4.00 p.m.

The 72nd LAA should see more of the ball than did the Civilian on Tuesday last, and behind the scrum they have a strong, fast attacking back division with Collins and Brentford the outstanding players. Both these players think before they act and should give the Fijians some awkward moments.

Exactly what the plan of campaign will be is naturally unknown, but they will probably play a close game, using long kicks for touch to take them into their opponents' half. The three line is fully capable of scoring from the 25, and given a chance should do well. The 72nd's forwards are very fast in the loose, and Thomas and Denskin are expected to shine both in the loose and the lineouts.

Defensively the 72nd are not all that could be wished but in Patterson they have one of the best full backs in the Colony to back them up and cover their errors.

The 72nd can be relied upon to tackle hard, and this afternoon they need every ounce of their tackling skill to prevent the Fijians from scoring.

The Fijians have made three changes in their line-up from Tuesday. Naldole, a quarter miler of note, takes his place on the right wing, while Gubuma becomes the new fly half. There is only one change in the forwards where Naldole moves into the right wing forward berth.

STRONGER TEAM

On the whole this is, if anything, a stronger team than Tuesday's for last season it was Naldole who was far and away the finest three on the field and it is unlikely that he has lost either his pace or skill in one season.

With that fantastic sprinter, Levula, on the left wing the 72 LAA are due for a busy time. With Radrodro, the captain and place kicker, obviously in form any infringements by the Fijians will lose them three valuable points.

The Fijians will presumably stick to open rugby, and it will be interesting to compare the two styles.

On Tuesday the Fijians were seldom on the defensive, and the

few times they were the only thing which seemed to worry them was a footrush by the forwards.

A fast bustling pack might easily wreck havoc with their defence. Batekama, the Fijian full back, was not given a chance to show his defensive work the other night as his team spent most of the game in attack.

Both teams have been trained to a hair, but the Fijians have a slight edge in speed of attack, and their whole pack invariably backs up the three.

On the whole this should be a grand match, one not to be missed by true rugby fans. It is expected that the Services will be out in force to cheer on the Gunners and, with the crowd behind them, 72 LAA may upset the Fijians and win, but my vote goes to the Fijians.

Tomorrow's Chances At The Valley

By "RAPIER"

Racing enthusiasts will again be thronging to Happy Valley tomorrow afternoon for the second and concluding day of the Hongkong Jockey Club's Eighth Race Meeting.

The First Sadding bell will be rung at 1.30 p.m. with the first race starting at 2.00 p.m. sharp.

The main event is the Victoria Peak Handicap over the two-mile post for Class 1 ponies. This race is scheduled for 3.30 p.m.

Here are my estimates of the chances.

FIRST RACE

Mount Nicholson Handicap (First Section) One Mile.

The curtain-raiser tomorrow will be a race confined to Class 8 ponies, with novice jockeys as pilots. Desert Gold (Mr. Andrew Chan) by virtue of its second placing in the Jockey Cup over the two-mile post at the Annual Race Meeting will most assuredly receive strong support on account of its fitness of the moment.

Rowan Glen (Mr. Hulse) is in the race. It is expected to provide the sternest challenge to Desert Gold and it will not surprise many to see it come in first.

Thunder Sky (Mr. Starr Liu) is also dangerous. First Lady (Mr. Chan) has been coming along nicely during morning gallops. I think it should hardly be ignored.

SECOND RACE

Stone Hill Plate: From 1½-Mile Post.

This sprint race is confined to Ponies of 1955. Ponies which have won \$1,250 or more in stakes are barred. Weight 147 lbs.

Among the ponies running in this event, So Big, which was officially fourth in the Wolverhampton Stakes over Six Furlongs at the last meeting, has the best recommendation for a win here.

It will again be taken out by Mr. Kwok. But it will have to be on its best form to stave off Tell-me-again's challenge as that pony will have Mr. Robert Tsai's experienced handling.

Spanish Fun (Mr. Chan) is capable of extending both So Big and Tell-me-again.

As an outsider I recommend keeping Strathvolr (Mr. Plumby) in mind.

THIRD RACE

Violet Hill Plate: (First Section) One Mile.

This race is confined to 1955 ponies with a proviso that ponies which have won \$1,250 or more in stakes are barred. Weight 147 lbs.

Looking over the entries, it would appear that Super-King (Mr. H. K. Chung) is the logical choice for first place.

Brunkom (Mr. Trevart) has shown improvement during morning gallops and it should be very near at the finish.

Three Cheers (Mr. Tsai) is coming along nicely, but I cannot see it beating the above-mentioned ponies and the best it can do is to take third place.

For those looking for an outsider, Beautiful Future (Mr. Wei) is the pony.

FOURTH RACE

Victoria Peak Handicap: From 2-Mile Post.

This is the main event of the afternoon and is a handicap race for Class 1 ponies. After the brilliant manner in which Jingle Bell (Mr. H. K. Chung) secured its win in the Hongkong St. Leger over 1½ Miles for ponies of 1954 at the 3rd Race Meeting, I think it ought to win.

New Jersey (Mr. Fih) is, of course, the danger and I expect to see it fighting out the finish. Fire-glo (Mr. Kwok) is also in the race in view of its win in the Victoria Handicap on the last day of the Annual Carnival.

Bonita (Mr. Plumby) is another good pony to bear in mind on account of its low weight of 143 lbs.

FIFTH RACE

Violet Hill Plate: (Second Section) One Mile.

The second batch of 1955 Ponies will fight out the issue in this race.

Excess (Mr. Tsai) should have no difficulty in winning this race, judging from its morning gallop on Wednesday, March 2, when it completed the Six Furlongs in 1.28.2—last quarter 28 seconds—but should expect strong opposition from Misty Law (Mr. Samarc) or Helicon (Mr. Kwok) both of which are capable of extending it.

As an outsider bear Gladie (Mr. Oliver) in mind.

SIXTH RACE

Mount Samson Handicap: From 1½-Mile Post.

Diana (Mr. Wei) is showing top form and should be a firm favourite in this race. Ponies ready to offer opposition are speedy Roger (Mr. Kwok) and World Peace (Mr. E. S. Wong) which have shown much promise in morning gallops.

Should Beautiful Phoenix (Mr. Gregory) get off to a good start, the pony has all the speed to score here.

Possibility II (Mr. K. F. Chiu) is well tuned up for a win and it certainly deserves serious consideration.

SEVENTH RACE

Mount Nicholson Handicap: (Second Section) One Mile.

This is the Second Section of the race for Class 8 ponies. Scoria (Mr. S. W. Tang) came in third in the Pineapple Pass Handicap (First Section) over six furlongs at the last meeting, and on that performance seems to be the best bet for a win.

The only danger comes from Easy-going (Mr. Kwok) which is quite at home over this distance and will probably extend the above pony.

Mr. Ostroumoff has the choice of either Boyne or Lodie, and he will probably take out the former which is in better condition at the moment.

For a long shot, I suggest Congratulation (Mr. Albert Lam) as this pony is capable of creating an upset.

EIGHTH RACE

Mount Davis Handicap: 1½ Miles.

Class 4 ponies will figure in this event. I don't think I shall be far wrong in stating that the ponies to watch in this race are Can Do (Mr. Lam King-Tak), Citation (Mr. H. K. Hung), Say When (Mr. Plumby) and Lake Success (Mr. K. Kwok).

Can Do is my choice and should win, but Citation is not to be ignored as this pony is improving in its morning gallops. Say When and Lake Success are quite good over this distance and will be near at the finish.

NINTH RACE

Mount Kellet Handicap: From 2-Mile Post.

This race will wind up the day's programme in which Class 3 ponies will battle out the finish.

Bengal Lancer (Mr. Tsai), has been given the post of honour with 159 lbs. to carry and on that account alone it can be disregarded.

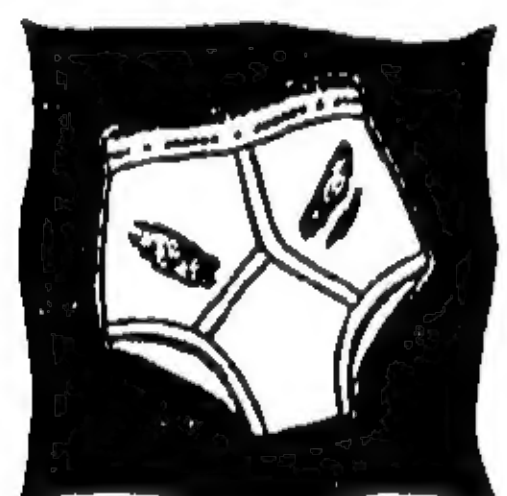
Squadron Leader (Mr. K. Kwok) has been showing good form lately during morning gallops and over this distance I think it has a good chance of winning.

The strongest opposition will come from Citrus, which will be ridden by Mr. Benbow. The pony is certainly very fit at the moment and may prove dangerous and a win from this combination is not impossible.

Fieldmaster (Mr. Samarc) should all third place with Treasurers (Mr. H. H. Chan) as the outsider.

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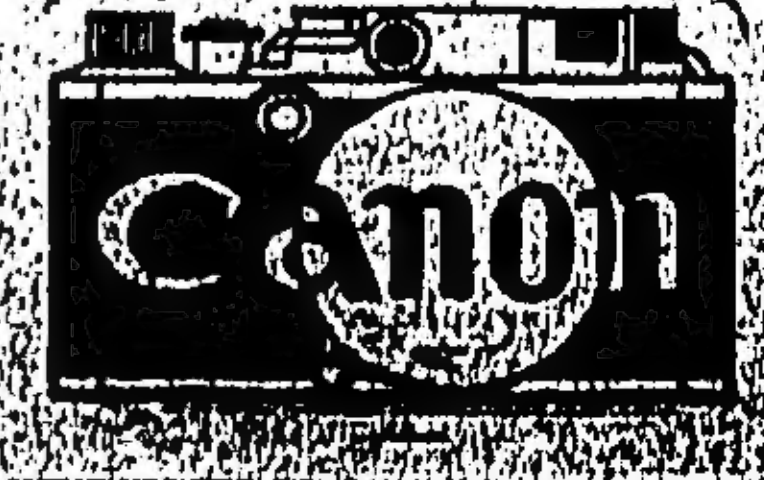
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THE GAMBOLS



Whatever the subject CAPTURE IT WITH



H.K. BANK CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

(Continued from Page 1)

adoption as point B in the principles which were agreed last year between China and India, as a guide to relations between these countries. In its literal English sense, peaceful co-existence is a good phrase which expresses the desires of many millions of people to live in peace free from fear of war. But we are on unsteady ground when we come to ask whether this phrase "peaceful co-existence" means the same to all people. It is doubtful whether Mr. Clement Attlee and his colleagues get clear and satisfactory explanations on this particular point. Their visit received considerable publicity in China as well as in the West and we all hope that this particular visit, joined with the many other visits to China by British parties, may have brought us forward a little way towards bridging the East-West gap which is still a wide one. Mr. Nehru has undoubtedly been working towards this aim and the British Prime Minister has aided his support. We now look hopefully to China for a move from this side.

SHANGHAI BRANCH

Our own particular hopes about China are that the negotiations for the settlement of our problems in closing our Office, which have been carried on now for nearly four years, should be satisfactorily concluded. Progress has been extremely slow. One stumbling block is that of U.S. dollars held by us on Chinese account, which the U.S. Government froze in December 1950 and which it is totally out of our power to release, as is demanded by the Chinese. This matter rests in the hands of the U.S. Government and all the representations we have made, even with the help of our own Government, have so far been unavailing. Nevertheless, we hope that before long we shall be able to come to a settlement with the Chinese about all outstanding matters, including the repatriation of our Manager at Shanghai. Meantime the question of future representation in China has been raised with us and we have expressed our willingness to come to some arrangement after our closure at Shanghai has been effected.

We sent a representative with the British Trade Mission which visited Peking last November under the auspices of the Sino-British Trade Committee, in order that he might investigate the possibilities of future trade. His journey was with us and we have expressed our willingness to come to some arrangement after our closure at Shanghai has been effected.

CHINA'S TRADE

Another Trade Mission will be going to Peking this month, and still more visits, whether by individuals or by organised parties, will probably follow. In terms of the volume of trade concluded such visits may not effect a great deal considering the total trade of the United Kingdom, but it is the possibility of expansion that merchants and manufacturers look and from which they hope for real benefit in the future. The potentialities are as great as they have been for over a hundred years. As in the past century, so now they would in actuality be greater if political and ideological difficulties and suspicions could be swept out of the way.

You are aware that China's trade with the Soviet Bloc now probably covers four-fifths of her total trade. When the blockade is removed the switch of trade to other countries is bound to be slow and it is hardly likely that China's trade will ever go back fully to the pre-war channels. No doubt, Japan will get a fair share, and the left for Europe and America may not be large. Much of course depends on the extent to which China is able to proceed with her development plans and in this connection what will count is the way in which China's export trade develops and whether greater quantities of minerals and agricultural products will be available for shipment overseas. Only thus will it be possible to obtain sufficient foreign exchange for use in the purchase of the capital goods required for industrialisation purposes.

INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT

It is not possible under existing circumstances to give shareholders a reliable analysis of what agricultural and industrial progress has been made in China throughout the past year. If one were to confine attention to the speeches made by officials in Peking, all would seem to be well and the progress astonishing. If, on the other hand, one were to read the controlled Chinese press emanating from the mainland, one would find certain frank criticisms indicating that there were serious difficulties, that planned targets were not always being reached and that in some cases they had been reduced. If one were to rely upon anti-Communist publications it would

seem that all official reports from China were nonsense. Yet without giving chapter and verse, but basing opinion on evidence collected from many sources, I think we are justified in deciding that very remarkable developments in agriculture and industry have taken place since the People's Government came into power; there may have been some slackening of progress or even some deterioration in agricultural output in 1954, but the industrial progress during the year has continued at a rapid pace in spite of the United Nations embargo on shipments to China of many categories of capital goods. It is clear that the strains on the country caused by the embargo are getting more and more serious, but strict regulation of materials is enabling the country to overcome a great many difficulties. Nevertheless China must surely attach very great importance to obtaining easier conditions and wider opportunities for importing the wide range of materials required for industrial expansion. The 156 industrial units for which large-scale Russian help is being received have no doubt progressed rapidly, but the significance of this number of plants, and of the whole Five Year Plan perspective of the tremendous size of the country, and its vast population of nearly 600 million people. One wonders if Russia and the Soviet Bloc can do much more than they are now doing in the direction of loans and technical assistance to China. So far China has followed the Soviet line because there has been no other road to follow; that is why many of us think it would be wise policy for the democratic countries to open an alternative route for China, upon which the only rests, to provide an opening for that "peaceful co-existence" she claims to desire so much. We had hoped that the Secretary-General of the United Nations, when he was in Peking in January, would have been able to clear the way for diplomatic negotiations leading to a solution of many of these problems, but tempers have flared up about the Formosan question, so we shall have to wait for a more propitious occasion.

HONGKONG

From China we must now turn to Hongkong which does not attempt to conceal the fact that what happens in China, how she prospers, how her trade fares, whence it comes and whither it goes, all are matters of great concern to the Colony. This is natural and inevitable. In the political field Hongkong is dependent externally on H.M. Government to ensure that the peace and security of the Colony is upheld by all the means at its disposal and Hongkong's omission from the scope of the Manila Treaty does not therefore cause us any perturbation. Internally Hongkong is dependent on the police and defence services together with the help of all dutiful citizens, to maintain law, order and stability. We are thankful to say that in this respect all has gone well with Hongkong in the past year.

In the economic field Hongkong has of course since the War and particularly in the last few years, done a lot to adapt her trade to the new conditions. In this there has been help from external capital which, especially since 1949, has found its way to the Colony from surrounding areas and has added to and improved upon many of the existing industrial facilities. It is estimated that in 1947, about 10% of HK\$120 millions of Hongkong's annual exports, represented goods manufactured in the Colony. In 1954 locally manufactured goods, including some items not recorded separately, are believed to have amounted to one-third of the total. In 1954 328 new factories were registered bringing the total of registered factories up to nearly 2,500 and the total labour employed in such factories up to over 115,000. Nearly two-thirds of Hongkong-manufactured exports are cotton goods the majority of which were sent to Indonesia last year. The United Kingdom took HK\$75 (or 24%) millions of Hongkong's products of which about a half were cotton goods. This is a drop in the ocean when compared with the total annual imports of the United Kingdom which are in the region of £3,500 millions. Questions in Parliament or in the press about alleged small irregularities over a few minor shipments of Hongkong goods surely ought to be looked at in the proper perspective. Attacks on Hongkong from other sources in regard to alleged infringements of the embargo on trade with China have, I am glad to say, died down. Hongkong is, of course, still suffering severely from the continuation of the embargo and it is indeed only too aggravating to know that others are benefitting from the relaxation of restrictions on trade with the Soviet Bloc.

There is still scope for greater industrialisation in

Hongkong, as was confirmed by the report of a recent inter-departmental Committee, which recommended the reclamation of land suitable for new sites for factories at Kowloon Bay. This recommendation having been approved, preliminary work has already started on the area, but a decision is awaited as regards the price and method of disposal of the sites. It is to be hoped that the procedure of preparing sites and developing common user services adopted in Singapore by the Colonial Development Corporation will be copied in Hongkong so as to provide additional inducements to industrialists to move their existing factories or to start up new ones on the Kowloon reclamation area. The future of Hongkong may well depend on the encouragement at the present time, when capital is available, both of additions to the present scale of industrialisation and also of the removal of existing factories which are in many cases situated in crowded and unsuitable areas and in most hazardous buildings. It is also a matter for serious consideration whether Hongkong should not go even further and provide, as is done in other underdeveloped countries, more specific inducements to encourage the establishment of factories of a larger and more up-to-date type to take the place of small units operating inefficiently on a hand-to-mouth basis. Ample unskilled labour is, of course available in Hongkong and some of this must be trained for skilled work. This does not point to the remarks made only a few weeks ago by Mr. Edward Hambro, when, in reporting to the United Nations on the refugee situation in the Colony, he stated that there were 607,000 refugees here and that he thought that these would have to be Hongkongers.

TRADE OF HONGKONG

Hongkong's trade in 1954 fell off about 11% in value although cargo tonnage changed little as compared with 1953. But it was satisfactory to observe that there was a slowly rising tendency in the figures recorded month by month throughout the year, even if the average monthly figures remained lower than we would like them to be. Trade with East Asian countries dropped in almost all cases except S. Korea and in the case of China the reduction was HK\$315 millions (£20 millions) from HK\$1,397 millions in 1953 to HK\$1,082 millions in 1954. There were local reasons for the drop in trade with some countries such as Indonesia and Thailand, and a reversal of this situation may well appear before another year passes. Shipping statistics show a drop in the number of entrances and clearances but this is counterbalanced by slightly improved quantities of cargo carried.

Business on the Hongkong Stock Exchange was exceedingly buoyant and reached its peak in December. Moreover land prices in the central districts reached record figures and remain high everywhere. It seems probable that a partial explanation for what might be called a boom in these activities was an inflow of capital from neighbouring countries to which we may add increased confidence in the stability of Hongkong.

We have the pleasure, some two months ago, of welcoming to Hongkong a representative gathering of members of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East which met here to discuss certain trade problems. The Conference, I am glad to say, came out strongly in favour of multilateralism in international trade as being a desirable target. One interesting fact it publicised was that the region covered by the E.C.A.F.E. organisation which contains half of the world's population and also immense raw material resources, only accounted for 10% to 12% of the world's trade. When one considers the backward development of most of the countries in this region, this small percentage figure is not altogether surprising. But it also underlines the remarks recorded in the beginning of this statement about the need for international efforts to remedy this state of affairs.

FINANCES OF HONGKONG

Before passing on from the subject of Hongkong I must refer to the financial position of the Colony which was dealt with in detail last year, respectively by Mr. A. G. Clarke, last week. It was very satisfactory to hear that a surplus of HK\$21 millions was expected for the current year and that the figure was to be even higher. This did much to temper the disappointment that the estimates for the financial year 1955/56 showed a record deficit for the Colony of HK\$22 millions. Revenue was expected to amount to HK\$119.7 millions and expenditure to HK\$97.7 millions. However, Mr. Clarke was able to point out that the Colony had the satisfactory reserves in the General Reserve, Balance and Revenue Equalisation

Fund which would shortly be over HK\$400 millions—that is to say more than the current year's total expenditure. Under the circumstances it was not proposed to increase direct taxation or duties. It was proposed, however, to look into the possibility of increasing various forms of licence fees such as for motor vehicles and of stamp duty on assignments.

The expenditure on education, public health and public works non-recurrent is estimated to cost no less than HK\$103 millions in the forthcoming year. While the Colony wants all these things including the larger Airport and more reservoirs, the people of the Colony must not forget that they will have to pay for them out of their own pockets.

It was interesting to see that both the Governor and the Financial Secretary dealing with the importance of encouraging sound local industries by such methods as the provision of land at reasonable prices in cases where a definite contribution to the well-being of the Colony would be made. I cannot complete my remarks about Hongkong without saying how pleased we are that Sir Alexander Grantham is still with us and will be remaining until towards the end of the year.

JAPAN

Japan has not yet fully re-established her position in the political arena in the East, partly because she has failed to reach agreement about reparations with the Philippines, Indonesia and partly because of her undeclared relations with China, Russia and South Korea. However, the Reparations Agreement, which Japan and Burma signed in November may well be the precursor to further developments and recent overtures to Russia and China indicate a desire for negotiations on trade if not on other outstanding questions. Trade between Japan and China did indeed increase a good deal in 1954 but from the very low levels of 1953. Whether formal negotiations with Russia and China take place or not depends on the policy of the Government emerging from the elections which have just been held. The Government in power will have to take account of the West as well as of the East and trade, while very important for Japan, is only one of many matters to be taken into consideration. Hongkong, like Japan, considers trade with China of great importance but both Hongkong and Tokyo are probably agreed that there are potent reasons why neither should be short-sighted in regard to this matter.

Meaning it is to be noted that discussions are proceeding between Japan and the United States as to the way in which some U.S.\$85 millions worth of farm surplus products are to be made available to the Japanese Government. Hongkong has also taken over responsibility from the United States authorities for the defence of Hokkaido where some big development projects are now being rapidly pushed forward.

ECONOMIC SITUATION

Internally, 1954 witnessed a remarkable transformation in the economic situation from one of inflationary danger to one of deflationary policy. At the beginning of the year to an economy brought back to a reasonably sound basis at the end of 1954 by a successful deflationary policy. A few figures will help to illustrate the change that has taken place. Japan's foreign trade returns show that whereas there was an adverse balance of U.S.\$1,135 millions in 1953, it was down to U.S.\$770 millions in 1954. Imports were about the same in the two years but exports were 27.6% higher in the past year. The balance of payments indicated surplus of about U.S.\$100 millions in favour of Japan over the calendar year 1954 as compared with an adverse balance of U.S.\$194 millions in 1953. There were surpluses of \$444 millions and U.S.\$68 millions respectively with the Sterling and Open Account areas and a deficit of U.S.\$92 millions with the other currency areas. In this connection the falling off of Special Procurement by the United States authorities destroyed hopes of a large increase in the balance last year. Japan's foreign currency balances were also higher at the end of 1954 at approximately U.S.\$1080 millions. Furthermore the Note Issue at the end of the year broke a twenty year record by falling below the figure at the end of the previous year instead of rising. The deflationary measures have also been successful in bringing down wholesale prices: this in turn is causing a fall in export prices which is expected to be as much as 10% by March 31, the end of the fiscal year. It is thought that if this reduction is accomplished it will go a long way to putting many of Japan's export quotations more on a level with international prices.

One unfortunate result of the past year's deflationary policy has been a considerable increase in unemployment which is likely to get worse so long as there is no relaxation in this policy. A number of industrial concerns have had to close down for the same reason but the number has not been as high as last year's total. Estimated at 2,500,000, later on

Economic Councils Board nevertheless considers that the present policy, within five years, bring about full employment. Amalgamations and other steps to put industry on a more efficient basis have increased notably and there are clear indications of a return to the pre-war pattern of Zaitatsu combined although at present on a much smaller scale.

The long drawn out negotiations regarding Japan's full membership of G.A.T.T. seem likely to be renewed when present tariff discussions now proceeding at Geneva have been concluded. The need for safeguards is underlined by the 51% increase in Japan's exports in 1954 to the sterling area. Nearly 60% of those exports were textile goods although such shipments to the United Kingdom itself appear to have been lower than in the previous year.

The Anglo-Japanese Sterling Payments Agreement is due to expire at the end of this month and in principle, but subject to certain discussions, an extension for three months is reported to have been agreed. It appears that the figure of £200 millions for the trade each way is not likely to be reached in the period of the Agreement.

INDONESIA

Indonesia has not been much in the limelight of the world in the past year because, fortunately for her, she has not been seriously affected by any of the current international polemics. Her Government has maintained its position notwithstanding a near crisis in December and in spite of Communist support within the country. Yet the internal economy is far from healthy and a few weeks ago did some straight talking in regard to the barriers obstructing foreign trade and restricting the operation of foreign concerns resident in that country.

It would not help matters to reiterate the complaints regarding regulations which make normal trading impossible, which upset established procedure and which discriminate against non-Indonesians. Such factors naturally give rise to a feeling of frustration and make it useless to expect the investment of foreign capital which is badly needed in order to turn to good account the potential wealth of the country.

The Indonesian Government issued a statement a year ago with a view to encouraging foreign investments but almost at once afterwards a levy of 40% on overseas remittances was imposed. We agree with the Governor of the Bank Indonesia when he expressed the hope, in his report for the year 1953/54, that the promised elaboration of that statement "would be formulated in such a way that at least as far as official conditions are concerned, Indonesia may become an attractive field of investment for foreign investors." He added the hope that there would also be a positive improvement in the investment climate in Indonesia. Another remark of his was:

"Only as and when many of the obstructive factors—which I shall not go into here because they may be assumed to be well-known—will have been swept away, it is to be expected that the Government's efforts to attract foreign investments will be crowned with success."

RESTRICTIONS ON TRADE

Official trade returns for the full year 1954 are not yet available but it is reported that the unorthodox system under which import licences continue to be issued at any rate limits imports, which are therefore expected to be some Rps. 800 millions less than in 1953. On the other hand Exports increased Rps. 70 millions in value. If the oil companies' returns are omitted (as they are on a special basis), there should be a small favourable balance of trade in 1954.

The restrictive system applied to imports has resulted in a considerable reduction in the availability of consumer goods and a consequent rise in prices. Rice production has been steadily improving and imports during the past year have again been reduced considerably. Exports of both rubber and tin from Indonesia increased as compared with 1953. In the case of rubber the increase was as much as 24,000 tons and the tin production rose in the latter part of 1954 accounted for some of the increased value of exports and also helped to maintain the ratio of gold and foreign currency holdings to the note issue.

The returns of the Bank Indonesia show that gold and convertible foreign exchange figures rose steadily in the latter part of the year from about Rps. 1,356 millions in June to Rps. 2,127 millions in the middle of January 1955 while the note issue increased in the same period from about Rps. 5,700 millions to Rps. 7,356 millions. In April last year the Minister of Finance announced that his draft budget showed a deficit of Rps. 1,200 millions in September he stated that the deficit was then estimated at Rps. 2,500 millions. Later on

this figure appears to have been once more revised upwards to Rps. 3,500 millions or over. It was not therefore surprising that as long ago as last June the Governor of the Bank Indonesia should have shown some alarm at the Budgetary situation.

THE PHILIPPINES

The Philippine Islands have had a prosperous year but the Government has not had an easy time owing to internal political antagonisms. President Maguinsa's reputation for probity, sincerity and hard work has been enhanced and he deserves much credit for his vigorous efforts to push through a programme of rural development, striving to make the country self-sufficient and to reduce unemployment. Administrative difficulties have however slowed down many of the best intentions of the Government.

In the President's "State of the Nation" message to the joint session of the House and Senate on January 24, after dealing with rural development and labour legislation, he stressed the importance of encouraging results in manufacturing and proceeding with the developments did not measure up to their needs. He then gave a word of welcome to foreign capital. He said that to encourage and facilitate its entry into the Philippines the essential conditions governing such entry should be specified.

Perhaps one of the most important events of the year was the conclusion of negotiations for the revision of the Bell Trade Act. Ratification has not yet taken place so detailed comment would be premature, but the Philippines appear to have gained considerable concessions from the United States. In the meantime the free trade period of the Act has been extended for 18 months to January 1, 1956.

In the financial sphere few significant changes took place in the year but the International Reserves dropped moderately from U.S.\$296 millions to U.S.\$273 millions while the General Fund at November 30 last showed a surplus of P.10.7 millions as compared with a deficit of P.48.7 millions in the same period of 1953. The re-appointment of Mr. Miguel Cuaderno as Governor of the Central Bank for a further term of six years was much welcomed by all bankers.

RETAIL TRADE CONTROLLED

Much legislation has been in the hands of Congress during its sessions in the past year and many important bills have been adopted, but one of some 45 so-called "nationalisation" bills introduced only one passed into law. This was the very controversial Act to Regulate the Retail Trade which aimed at restricting such businesses as Philippine amusements. After many protests, particularly by Chinese traders, at length an amending law has been submitted to the House. In the explanatory Note attached to this amending bill it was stated that the original Act had been found to have had a far-reaching effect on the national economy by causing the withdrawal of foreign capital and by heightening the problem of unemployment. It added that by "nationalisation" they were not only driving away foreign capital which intended to enter but were also dislodging capital already established and contributing to the progress of the nation.

How widely the above views are held in the Philippine Congress is not known, but they indicate that there is a growing realisation that ultra nationalistic measures, if applied to business concerns operated by foreign private enterprise, may likewise have a far-reaching effect on long established undertakings to withdraw from the country.

MALAYA

Important Constitutional changes came under consideration during the past year both in the Federation of Malaya and in Singapore. There are some 100 members of the Committee appointed to examine the question of elections to the Federal Legislative Council and shortly afterwards the Report of the Rendel Constitutional Commission in Singapore. The Federation Report included a surprisingly large number of unanimous recommendations: the main disagreement being on the question of the composition of the new Legislative Council. In due course General Templer recommended a compromise providing for 82 elected members out of a total of 98, excluding the Speaker. This was approved by the Secretary of State and the Bill, which put the new proposals into effect, was passed on August 10. The Bill covered not only the Legislative Council but also election procedures and many other matters of detail. When one bears in mind the complicated structure of the Federation of Malaya, with nine separate States and two settlements and a community of a particularly large size, it is not surprising that no such experiments will be attempted, but that safe, sound and orthodox policies will be adopted.

The new Legislative Councils in the Federation and in Singapore will have many complicated problems to face. One of the most important is the organic differences existing between the Federation and the Colony. Nevertheless the two territories are so interdependent that necessarily each Government has to ensure that whatever legislation is introduced in the one will not be

prejudicial to the other. For this reason veto powers are held by the High Commissioner and the Governor, which of course limit the authority of the Legislatures and will impede progress towards self-government until a federal or other solution is evolved. A Joint Co-ordinating Committee has had this matter under consideration for some time but no information as to its progress has been made public.

FEDERAL AND COLONIAL BUILDING SOCIETY

The Governor, Sir John Nicoll, recently urged the expansion of industrial development and the attraction of capital investment. A comparison with Hongkong's industrial progress has been made and special inducements to encourage secondary industries have been suggested. This is a subject which is not doubt receiving the attention of the Government departments concerned. Our Singapore Branch has been playing its part in the encouragement of new factory developments. As a step in line with this policy our Manager, Mr. J. A. D. Morrison, has recently provided finance for and become Chairman of the Federal and Colonial Building Society, an organisation sponsored by the Colonial Development Corporation and by the Federation Government to encourage the building of houses which are so much needed in these territories. There are many other developments in Malaya which could be mentioned if there were more space. In particular Singapore's magnificent harbour with its easy berthing facilities and docks has not, in recent years, received the due amount of maintenance. The tonnage of vessels berthed and docked and of cargo dealt with, has been increasing rapidly in the post-war years and the improvements now under way will make the port in many respects the best equipped in the East.

A number of development projects and other plans are being held in suspense awaiting the report of the International Bank Mission which visited Malaya early in 1954. I understand the delay is due to the sickness of one of the members of the mission.

RUBBER AND TIN

There is no need to comment in detail on the subject of rubber and tin as reports on these commodities are published in profusion by those closely connected with the two industries. The natural rubber industry is so important to the Malayan economy that the improved statistical outlook and the rapid rise in price under 1/6d a lb. in January 1954 to nearly 2/4d at the end of the year naturally brought considerable optimism and brought prices for the average prices for 1954 showed little change, exports from Malaya increased by 67,000 tons in 1954 compared with 1953. There is, however, a fairly general feeling that the rise in price since last August has been overdone for reasons not entirely connected with the rubber position. Let us hope that the recent set-back will be no more than a healthy jolt to speculators.

The Madio Report on the Malayan Rubber Industry which was published in September met with a mixed reception. Government and producers are now trying to work out a compromise in regard to differences on the controversial parts of the Report. The synthetic industry remains an uncertain and potentially dangerous factor over-hanging the natural rubber industry.

TIN PRICES PER TON IN 1954

Tin prices per ton in 1954 fluctuated between £20—the lowest point—and £285—the highest, but the average for the year was £278 compared with £271 in 1953. The International Tin Agreement has not had a smooth passage since it was signed in June 1954 and ratification by the necessary number of countries is still awaited before the agreement can be put into effect. If it proves abortive the industry will no doubt be able to adjust itself, although some sections will undoubtedly suffer. Malayan Exports were 70,333 tons in 1954 as compared with 61,734 tons in 1953.

The Malayan trade returns for the year 1954 show a moderate reduction of about 3% in imports to M\$3,140 millions and a rise of 9% in export values to M\$3,109 millions.

Before I pass on to other countries, I must refer to the Government of the Colony of Singapore, Sir John Nicoll, which is to take place this Spring. Sir John's departure will be much regretted by the commercial community in that Colony where he has worked wholeheartedly for the good of all classes and races. It is regrettable that he should not see the constitutional changes and the many local projects commenced under his influence and guidance, steered through their critical stages. However, Mr. J. A. D. Morrison, who is replacing Sir John, will carry on the mantle and we wish him well in the important post which he will shortly be taking up.

(Continued on Page 9, Col. 2)

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NOTICE
It is hereby notified that in
connection with road works, with
effect from 00.01 hours Satur-
day, 12th March, 1955, parking
will be prohibited in that section
of Nathan Road between the
junction of Jordan Road and the
junction of Gascoigne Road.

It is also notified that during
the period that these road works
are in progress the following
roads west of Nathan Road will
be closed at their junctions with
Nathan Road.

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NING PO STREET,
SAIGON STREET,
PAK HOI STREET.**
COMMISSIONER OF POLICE.

NOTICE
VEHICULAR FERRY
Owing to repairs to Piers,
the Vehicular Ferry Service
will be suspended as
follows:—

Thursday Evening
the 17th March, 1955
The Service will be
suspended from 9.00 p.m. to
1.00 a.m.

Friday Morning
the 18th March, 1955
The first ferry will com-
mence at 7.20 a.m. instead of
6.20 a.m.

Tuesday Evening
the 22nd March, 1955
The Service will be
suspended from 7.00 p.m. to
1.00 a.m.

Wednesday Morning
the 23rd March, 1955
The first ferry will com-
mence at 7.20 a.m. instead of
6.20 a.m.

Tuesday Evening
the 29th March, 1955
The last ferry will leave at
12.00 Midnight instead of
1.00 a.m.

During the abovementioned
suspension Passenger Ferries
will be operated as usual.

**THE HONG KONG &
YAU MATI FERRY
CO., LTD.**
Hongkong, 9th March, 1955.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES
"AJAX"

Damaged cargo on this vessel will
be surveyed by Messrs. Goddard &
Douglas at Holt's Wharf from 10
a.m. on March 16, 1955, and con-
signees are requested to have their
representatives present during the survey.

**BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.**
Hong Kong, March 11, 1955.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES
P.O. Box 53 Queen's Building Tel: 3661
FAST PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE
"VIETNAM" sailing Apr. 9th
"CAMBODGE" sailing May 20th
FAST FREIGHT SERVICE
"ANADYR" sailing Mar. 27th
"MEINAM" sailing Apr. 18th

Moscow Expected To Squeeze Baltic Republics

Stockholm, Mar. 10.
Moscow under Khrushchev and Bulganin is expected to squeeze more food and capital goods out of the three incorporated Soviet Baltic Republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Warnings of this have already appeared in newspapers reaching here from the three little countries.

While collar workers are already being transferred from non-productive jobs in the towns to the tractor stations in the country. The Estonian, Lithuanian, and other state-controlled newspapers have given warning that this "direction of labour," as they call it, is to be intensified.

LIGHTNING COURSE
These white collar workers are put through a lightning course in tractor maintenance before being assigned to the stations which supply machines to the different farms.

The farmers had been complaining that poor tractor services were holding up their field work. The tractor station managers had, in their turn, been complaining of a shortage of mechanics.

As farmers in the three Republics have also been complaining of a shortage of fertilisers, output of these commodities is to be increased under this year's production plans.

Production of fish, an important food in the Soviet Baltic provinces is to be increased and, Riga radio has reported, the entire Latvian fishing fleet will be allowed out into the Atlantic and North Sea this year.

The Estonian fleet is also believed to be going out into these free Western waters. Hitherto, only selected vessels of the three countries' fleets have been allowed out of the over-fished eastern Baltic.

SHOALS DEPLETED
This restriction prevented their crews from escaping to Sweden or other Western countries, but depleted the fish herring shoals in the Gulf of Riga and nearby waters.

More state capital will be invested in agriculture this year, although last year's investments were in themselves about two and a half times as much as those of 1953.

There are no signs that the three Republics will reduce their food exports to Soviet Russia, or to her satellites. On the contrary, new shipping and rail freight services have been started to link the Baltic Republics with Leningrad. Moreover, the food processing industries have been set higher norms this year.

Last year, special Ministries of Fish and Milk, led by Russians, were established to speed up deliveries to Leningrad and Moscow. The Central Government in Moscow is also drawing men and materials from the three countries to increase food production in the so-called "virgin lands" in the eastern parts of the Soviet Union.

Agonomists graduating from the Baltic technical colleges and Universities are in many cases refused positions in their own countries and recommended to take up appointments in the virgin lands.

Farm hands and even unskilled labourers are also encouraged to go east. Special trains full of emigrants have recently left both Estonia and Latvia with civil dignitaries lined up on the platforms to wave them a ceremonious good-bye.

HEAVY VEHICLES
Materials sent to the virgin lands are mainly tractors, road vehicles or rolling stock as turned out by the "Riga carriage factory" which the official Latvian organ, Ciena, describes as subordinated to the central Moscow Government.

The materials also include pre-fabricated dwellings for the settlers. For example, the Javakandil factories of north Estonia are this year to send 350 pre-fabricated shops to the Kuzakhan.

These shops include counters, cash desks, store rooms and

living accommodation for staff. A first consignment of 20 wagon loads has already left.

Last year, the Javakandil factories delivered only 240 of these shop units to Soviet Russia.

The food and materials squeeze in the three Republics is likely to press hardest on the workers, since all three local governments are out to beat last year's average increase of four per cent in "labour productivity," or output per man hour.

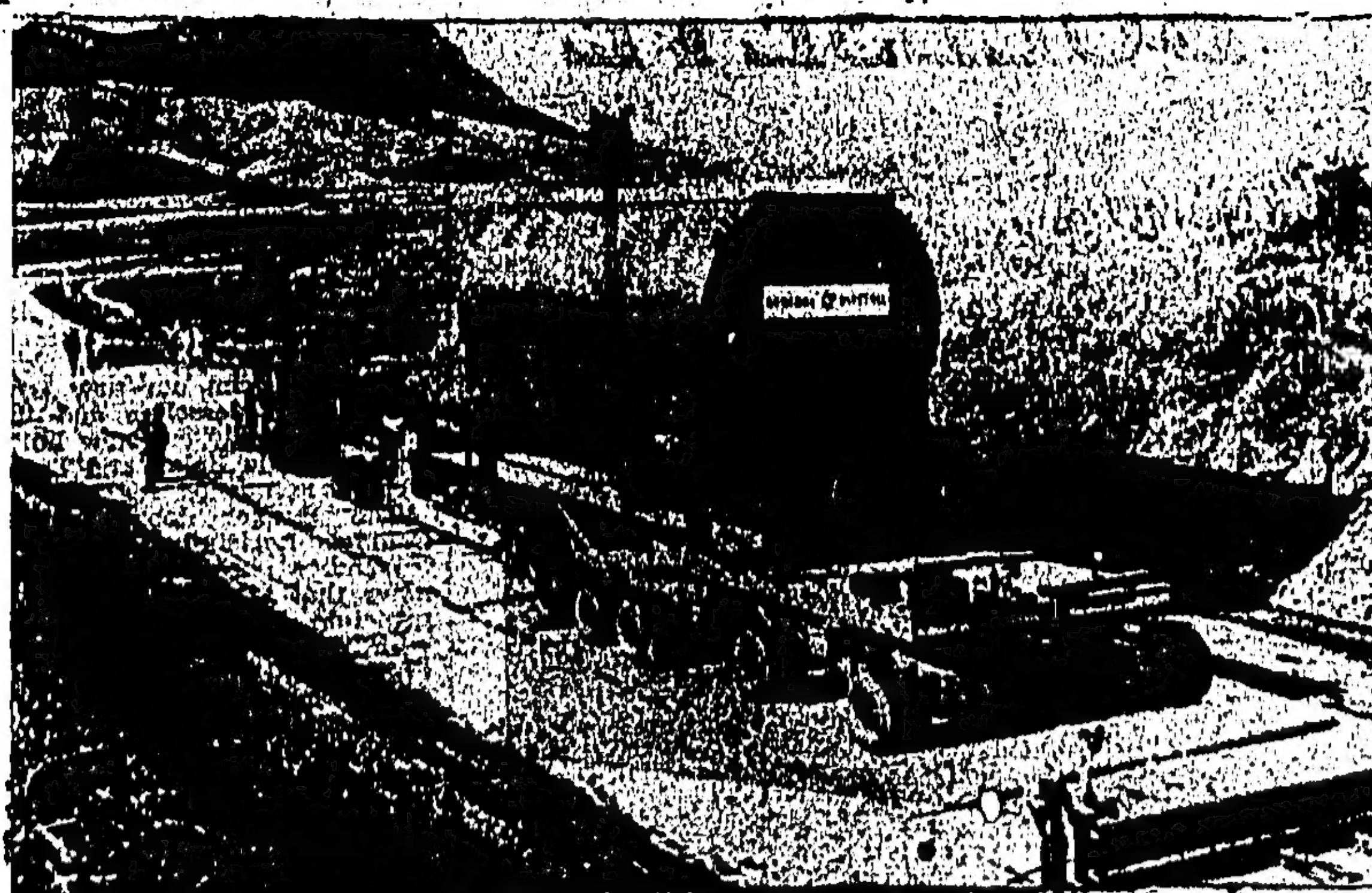
Farm and factory manage-ments, pressed by their super-vising Ministries for production, with staffs sometimes depleted by the migrations to the virgin lands, are forcing workers to do more overtime than is fixed in Soviet law.

For example, T. Lask, a woodworker of Pagnra, in west Estonia, worked 493 hours overtime in four months. K. Jaerve, his workmate, did 193 hours overtime in two months. The state fixed maximum is 120 hours per year for this industry and this district.

WORK IN SHIFTS
Newspapers have also reported cases of mothers with children under 12 being forced to work in shifts, which is also contrary to official regulations.

These and similar cases come to light because the workers claimed compensation from their managements. Now, new complaints are appearing in the press that managements are avoiding payment of the claims awarded against them.—China Mail Special

Giant Generator Travels On Wooden Carpet



TRIBAL WAR

Cairo, Mar. 10.
Sudanese troops left here by air and road today to quell a tribal war between the Dinka and Nuer warriors of the Upper Nile Valley, it was reported here tonight.

The troops left after the gov-ernors of the province of the Upper Nile appealed to the Khartoum authorities for help in preventing a spread in the fighting, centred around the Bah el Ghazal district to the south of Mairakal.—France-Press.

Heavy Industry Is Top Priority

London, Mar. 10.
Moscow Radio said today the development of heavy industry was the Communist Party's first task as it was the basis of the entire national economy.

The broadcast recalled that it was the development of heavy industry which was "the basis of victory in the war."—Reuter.

844 Executions

London, Mar. 10.
A total of 844 Mau Mau ter-rorists have been executed since the terrorist campaign broke out in Kenya in Nov., 1952.

This figure was disclosed here today by the British Colonial Secretary Alan Lennox-Boyd.—France-Press.

SKIN DIVERS AID POLICE AND BECOME EXPLORERS

Australian Beauty Spot New Caves Located At

Melbourne, Mar. 10.

Australia's skin divers are turning explorers. Members of one of Australia's quickest-growing sports, finding that spearing fish underwater did not provide all the thrills they wanted, have offered their services to science and the police.

The skin divers have lugged their bulky underwater breathing gear hundreds of feet below the earth's surface to probe the blackness of secret rivers and have carried tape recorders to the bottom of the sea to record the singing noises made by fish.

Then, in a grimmer role, the same explorers have pulled the bodies of the drowned from underwater traps and have helped the police in macabre searches.

their way along its cold sides for two minutes, which they said later, seemed an eternity.

LIT UP GLOOM

Then they found that they could break surface and their head lights, reflecting eerily in the black water, lit up gloom which had never seen light before.

One of the divers, Rod Mc-Nell, overcame by the experience, slid clumsily out of the water and passed prints from his feet flippers in a wet bank of sand. He scribbled above these his initials and the date. "This was a place no man had ever been before," he said in a broadcast.

Cave explorers said after-wards that the discovery of the new cavern had opened the way for the exploration of a chain of inter-connecting caves and passages. This might eventually lead to a whole new system, previously unsuspected.

A similar group of under-water explorers in Melbourne made the front pages of news-papers here when they found the body of a man and two of his dogs in a sunken car in Melbourne's muddy Yarra River.

Police thought that the car had plunged into a river when the man was reported missing and called in divers to find out. One of the man's dogs, howling at midnight on the river bank, provided the clue.

The divers quickly found the car and fastened tow lines to it so that it could be recovered intact with its grim cargo.

Near Sydney, the divers pushed up an inlet where tur-bines from a giant powerhouse were sucking up cooling water. They found the body of a small boy trapped inside and re-covered it.

TO FIND THE BODY nor-mally, police would have had to order the turbines to stop, interrupting the power supply and possibly causing great damage to the machinery but the divers were able to push their way out against the rush of water.

At the fisheries research centre, at Cronulla, New South Wales, scientists have found the divers valuable allies. They have brought back from the ocean bed weird recordings of the underwater noises made by fish, and, watching and pho-tographing fish in their own environment, the explorers have given scientists samples of the shellfish which commercial vessels of fish feed on.

In return, the scientists have given the divers valuable "fish" information which has helped the sport of spear-fishing in Australia.

Sydney bream, one of the best-tasting fish in Australian waters, would normally be an easy target for spear-fishers. They are fairly flat and from side on a wonderful target. But when a spear was fired, the fish slipped round at right angles, presenting the narrower target of a head-on or tail-on shot.

"Shoot at them head-on," experts advised. The fishermen did so and found that the in-stinctive fish' reflexes made them spin round so that they became a target which could hardly be missed.

Diving enthusiasts have formed an Australia-wide federation of clubs to foster the sport and this season held a giant convention at Point Lonsdale ocean beach, in Vic-toria. Here they organised a series of competitions including one to see what was the biggest weight of fish which an in-dividual diver could capture in a given time.

NO ONE KILLED
Australia's hungry sharks have so far not killed any skin divers, although one diver was attacked and al-most lost an arm. His arm had disappeared into the shark's mouth, when he managed to wedge his spear across the hinge of the shark's jaws, and pull his arm out.
Today, spear, gun, snorkel, diving mask and flippers are a common sight on Australian beaches and sports stores have been set up special departments to cater for the rash—China Mail Special.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for in-registered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere, which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office. The latest posting times for registered articles are given one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regard-ing parcel rates can be ascer-tained by enquiry at any post office.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11
By Air
Japan, U.S.A., Canada, 9 p.m.
Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Ceylon, 6 p.m.
By Surface
Hawaii, 3 p.m.
Macao, 3 p.m.
SATURDAY, MARCH 12
By Air
Thailand, Burma, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 9 a.m.
Philippines, 9 a.m.
Formosa, Canada, 6 p.m.
Okinawa, Korea, 6 p.m.
Japan, U.S.A., 9 p.m.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



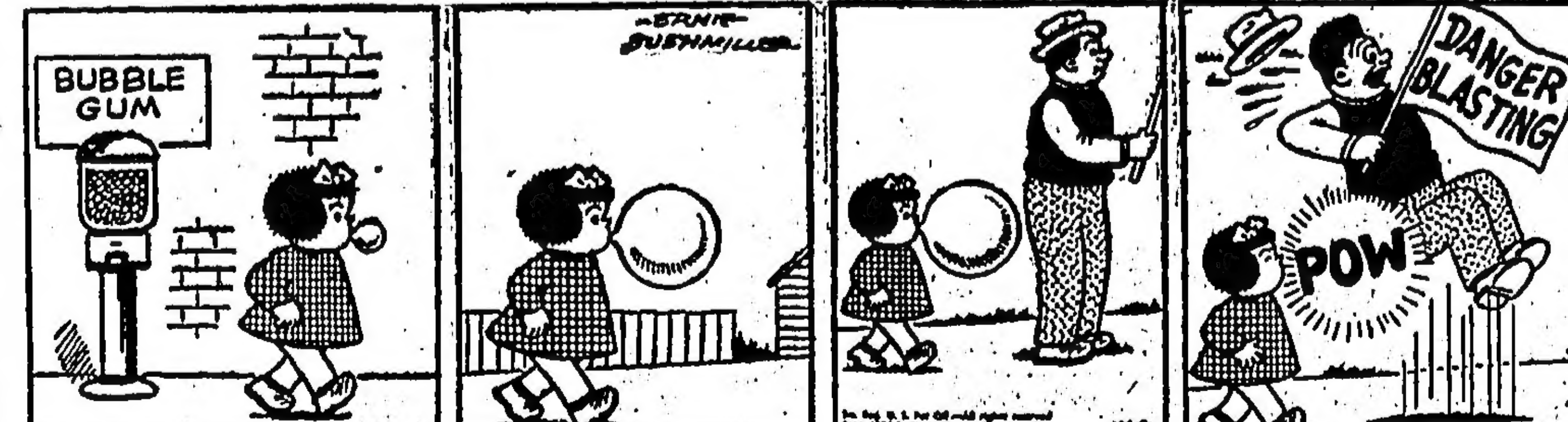
FERD'NAND

By Milk



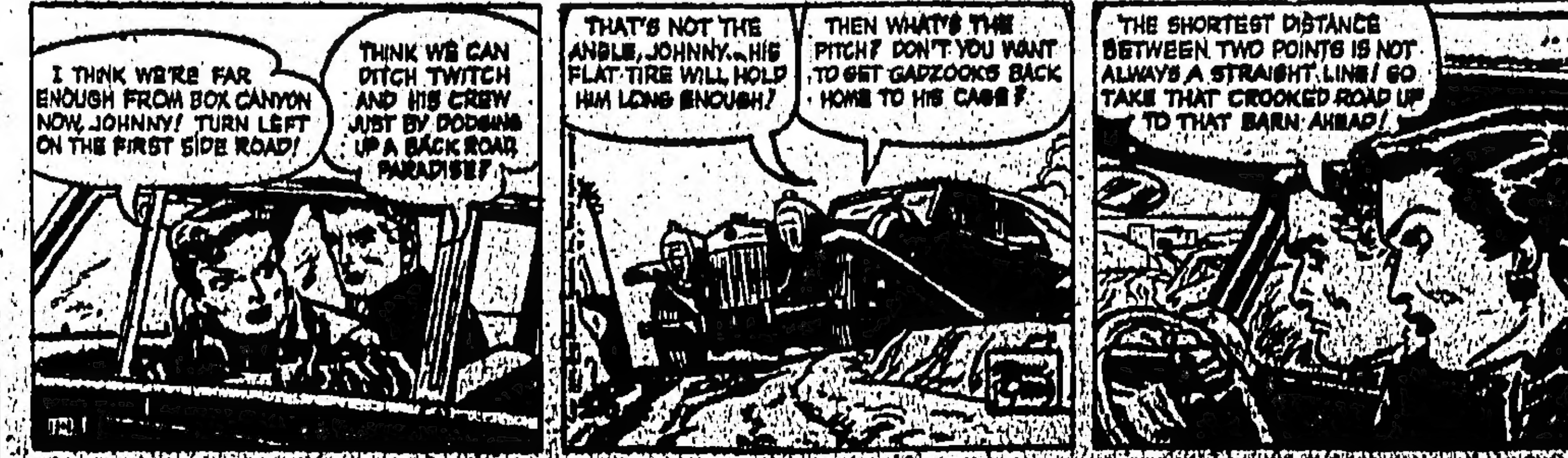
NANCY

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CHINA MAIL

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"SNORKEL"

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FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1955.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

The Magic Streets

MARK had not a care in the world, and the seediest streets in Kentish Town seemed as entrancing to him as streets in a fairy town in a children's play.

Nothing, he felt, was too marvellous to happen to him, and presently sure enough, strange things did begin to happen. A lamp-post seemed to uncoil from its stiff normal attitude and to beckon to Mark as he passed it as a heart in the Caliph's Baghdad.

Mark with the fumes from the drink he had taken, weaving the prettiest patterns in his old brain, found himself quite unable to resist the lamp-post's summons.

He swayed towards it, embraced it, and muttered "sweet nothings" about its being the best of all lamp-posts in the world.

STREET-LAMP SERENADE

HE was still claspings the lamp-post, and groping around in his mind for words to put into poetry to express his feelings, still grasping at stretches of half-forgotten songs to give music to the poetry, when a policeman came up.

The policeman saw only an old ragged man wrapped round a lamp-post.

"Now then," the policeman said, "You'd better let go that lamp and go home."

Mark tried to let go, but when he did the lamp-post, as if offended, trapped him up.

The policeman pulled Mark to his feet and led him to the station. Next morning at the Clerkenwell Court, Mark pleaded guilty to have, the night before, been drunk and incapable.

JUST AN ACCIDENT

THEN, as if it were an afterthought, he added, "Well, guilty but accidental, you might say."

The magistrate, Mr. T. F. Davies, called for the evidence, and the policeman told his story. Then Mr Davies asked Mark if he had any questions to ask.

"That doesn't matter much, does it?" Mark asked, "whether I've any questions or not, it is just an accident."

"The officer says you were leaning on a lamp-post, or the lamp-post was leaning on you."

"Very likely," said Mark. "I'm getting on for 80, you know, Go straight to glory, one of these days."

AN ORDINARY DRINK

"YES, but you find yourself now in a very different place," said the magistrate.

"Agreed," said Mark. "The officer coughed: 'On him, when he was searched,' he said, 'he had 20s. 6d. in silver, and 250 in notes.'"

"Say that again," said the magistrate. The policeman did.

"I was just having an ordinary drink, that's all," said Mark.

"You seem to have had too many ordinary drinks."

"Well, if that's anybody's fault it's mine," Mark said handsomely.

"Well, I find you guilty," said the magistrate. He turned to the gaoler. "Anything known?" he asked.

"DON'T COME BACK."

"Hence in March 1953."

The magistrate turned again to Mark. "Pay 10s.," he said, "and please don't come back again."

"All right," said Mark, and he grinned. "Thank you very much."

And he hobbled out, still grinning, to pay the reasonable sum from the cash he had in hand, and to return, then, to the streets that some people found dim and grey but which to him were sometimes touched with magic.

Heads turned as pedestrians stopped and stared along Nathan Road this morning and traffic slowed down as a mournful siren-like wail shattered the air.

There was nothing really unusual about a siren's wail but what was odd was that the familiar red of the fire brigade or the ominous grey of a Police van were nowhere to be seen.

The volume increased and ferry-bound cars hugged the curb as a little taxi dashed for a side street and the nearest garage... to treat a jammed car horn!

Lot Of Sound, Signifying Nothing

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Radio Hongkong

Up to Time Signal and Programme Summary, 6.05, Children's Half Hour, 6.10, 6.15, 6.20, Popular Song Parade, 6.25, 6.30, 6.35, 6.40, 6.45, 6.50, 6.55, 7.00, 7.05, 7.10, 7.15, 7.20, 7.25, 7.30, 7.35, 7.40, 7.45, 7.50, 7.55, 8.00, 8.05, 8.10, 8.15, 8.20, 8.25, 8.30, 8.35, 8.40, 8.45, 8.50, 8.55, 9.00, 9.05, 9.10, 9.15, 9.20, 9.25, 9.30, 9.35, 9.40, 9.45, 9.50, 9.55, 10.00, 10.05, 10.10, 10.15, 10.20, 10.25, 10.30, 10.35, 10.40, 10.45, 10.50, 10.55, 11.00, 11.05, 11.10, 11.15, 11.20, 11.25, 11.30, 11.35, 11.40, 11.45, 11.50, 11.55, 12.00, 12.05, 12.10, 12.15, 12.20, 12.25, 12.30, 12.35, 12.40, 12.45, 12.50, 12.55, 1.00, 1.05, 1.10, 1.15, 1.20, 1.25, 1.30, 1.35, 1.40, 1.45, 1.50, 1.55, 2.00, 2.05, 2.10, 2.15, 2.20, 2.25, 2.30, 2.35, 2.40, 2.45, 2.50, 2.55, 3.00, 3.05, 3.10, 3.15, 3.20, 3.25, 3.30, 3.35, 3.40, 3.45, 3.50, 3.55, 4.00, 4.05, 4.10, 4.15, 4.20, 4.25, 4.30, 4.35, 4.40, 4.45, 4.50, 4.55, 5.00, 5.05, 5.10, 5.15, 5.20, 5.25, 5.30, 5.35, 5.40, 5.45, 5.50, 5.55, 6.00, 6.05, 6.10, 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